

The New Legend of Snow White



Prétear

1

AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR:
KAORI NARUSE
CREATOR:
JUNICHI SATOU



Prétear

DON'T
BLAME
ME!

STRANGE.
IT'S SPRING,
BUT IT'S STILL
NOT GETTING
ANY WARMER.

A red
snow is
falling.

BECAUSE
THE SKIES
ARE DARK,
BUT THERE'S
BEEN NO
RAIN.

THE
PLANTS
AREN'T
DOING
WELL...


IT'S
BECAUSE
OF HER.

THE LEAF
HASN'T BEEN
WORKING
RIGHT,
EITHER.

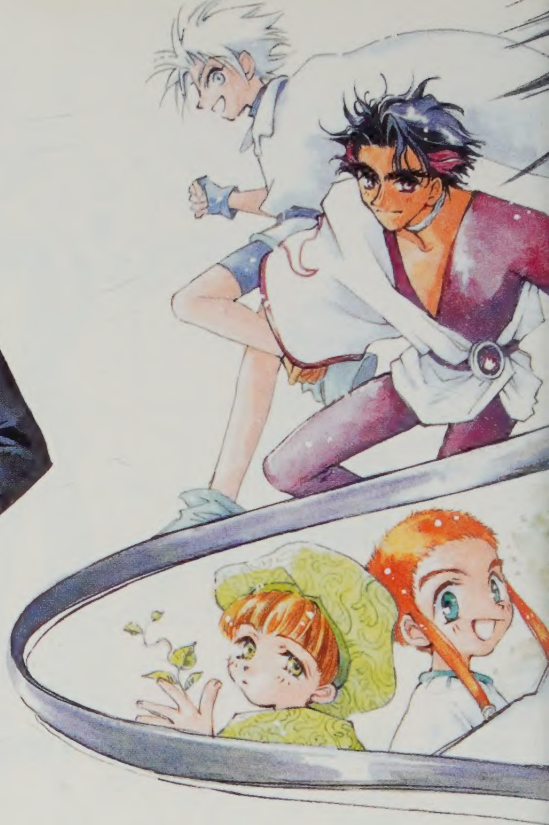
RIGHT.

WE CAN'T
FIGHT HER
ALONE.

WE HAVE
TO FIND
THE ONE
WHO CAN
HELP US.



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Prétear

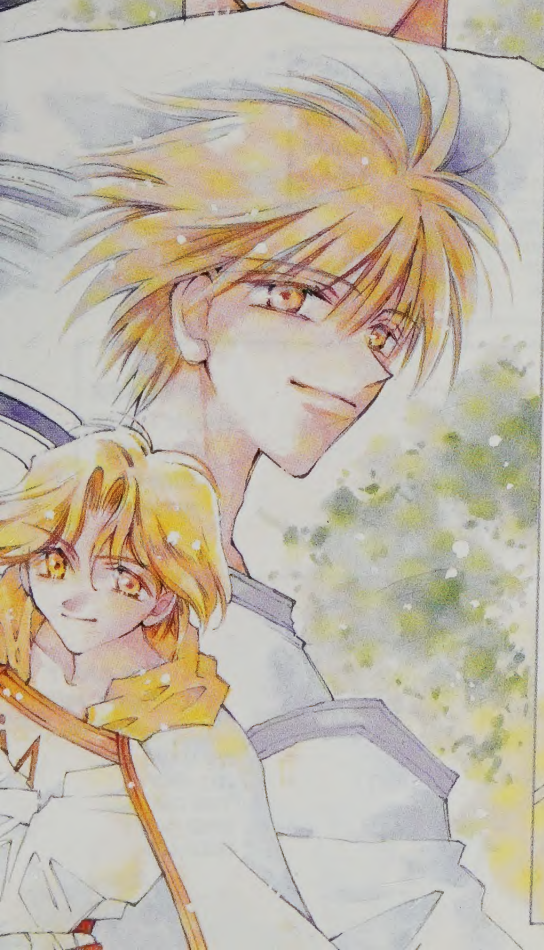
1

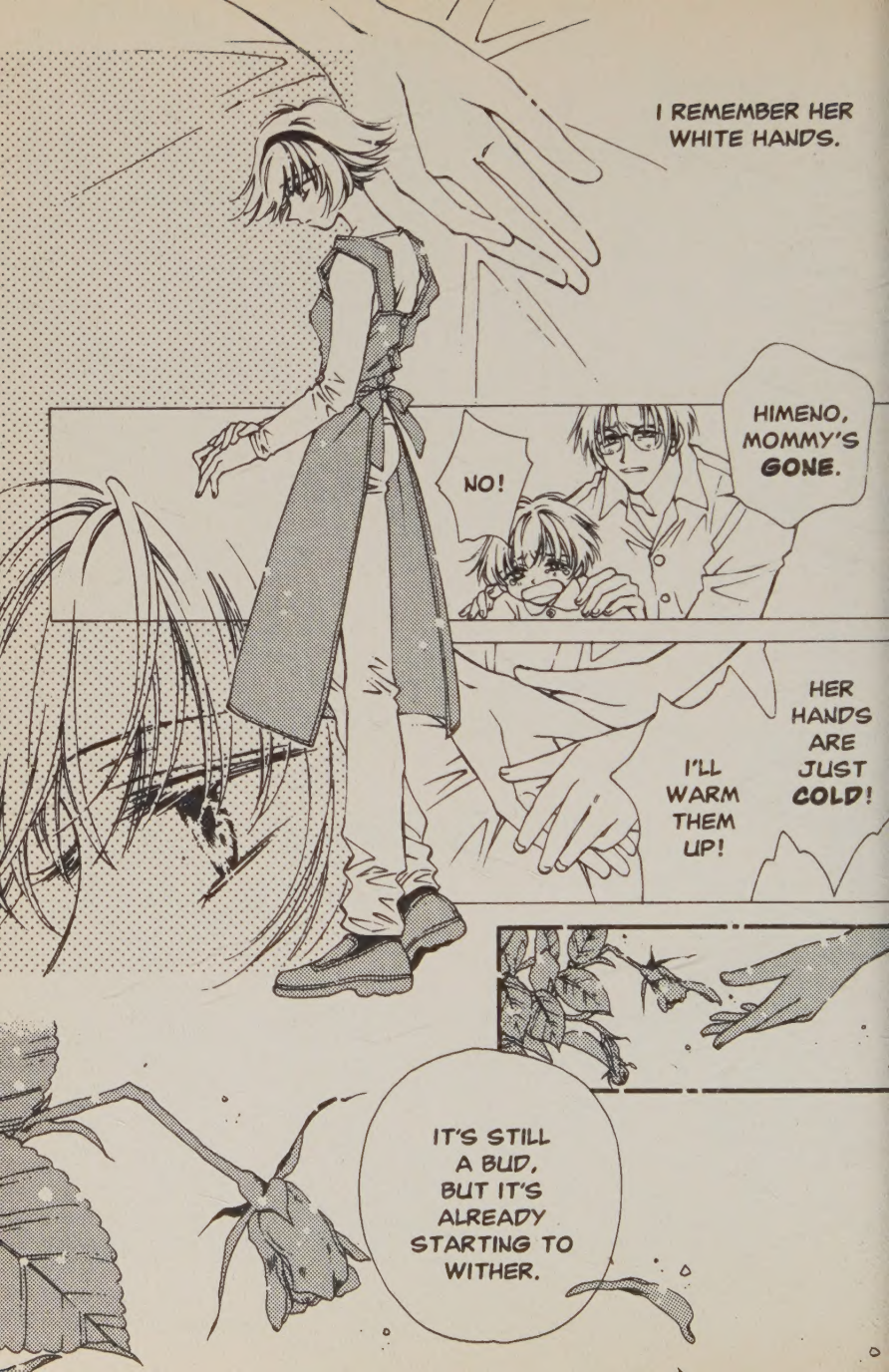
AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR:
KAORI NARUSE

CREATOR:
JUNICHI SATOU



THE ONE
WHO WILL
TURN THE
SNOW
WHITE...
THE
PRÉTEAR.






I REMEMBER HER
WHITE HANDS.

NO!

HIMENO,
MOMMY'S
GONE.

I'LL
WARM
THEM
UP!

HER
HANDS
ARE
JUST
COLD!



IT'S STILL
A BUD,
BUT IT'S
ALREADY
STARTING TO
WITHER.



Chapter 1	p. 1
Chapter 2	p. 49
Chapter 3	p. 81
Chapter 4	p. 113
Chapter 5	p. 145
Hang in there, Mr. Tanaka!	p. 176



BESIDES,

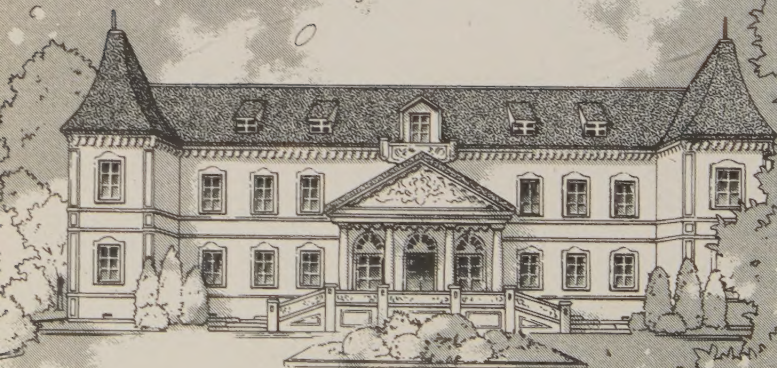
I STILL
HAVEN'T
GOTTEN
USED TO
THE IDEA...

JUST
CALL ME
HIMENO.

YOU DON'T
HAVE TO
CALL ME
"MISS."

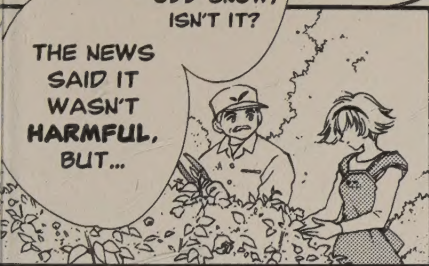
この家の
「娘」に
なったなんて

THAT **THIS** IS MY
HOUSE NOW.



THIS
SURE IS
SOME
ODD SNOW,
ISN'T IT?

THE NEWS
SAID IT
WASN'T
HARMFUL,
BUT...



I WONDER IF
IT'S RELATED
TO ALL THE
STRANGE
WEATHER
WE'VE HAD
LATELY.



POOR
THING.

THREE TOURS



MY
HUMBLEST
I DIDN'T APOLOGIES,
MEAN TO MISS.
FRIGHTEN
YOU.



AND
PLEASE,
DON'T
BE SO
FORMAL!

THERE'S
NOTHING TO
APOLOGIZE
FOR.

IT
HURTS.

DON'T
SAY
THINGS
LIKE
THAT.

IT'S...
KIND OF
SCARY.

IT
HURTS.



THIS IS
MY DAD,
KAORU
AWAYUKI
(AGE 43).

HE USED
TO BE A
POPULAR
AUTHOR OF
NOVELS FOR
YOUNG
GIRLS. BUT...

BUT SIR,
THERE'S
NO NEED
FOR YOU
TO...

AAH,
C'MON
NOW!

I DO THIS
ALL THE
TIME.
♡

YOU'RE
DRINKING IN
THE MORNING
AGAIN?

BUT SIR,
THAT'S
COOKING
WINE!

AND IF
YOU'RE MAKING
BREAKFAST,
YOU GOTTA
HAVE A LITTLE
OF THIS!

waft

ゆふり


ふは

WINE IS
WINE, MY
FRIEND!

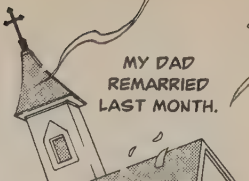
HOW
MEAN, HIMENO!
DROPPING YOUR
OWN FATHER
WITH A HEEL
KICK...

キ

Ka-BAM!



HIS NEW
WIFE WAS A
DIVORCEE.
SHE HAS TWO
DAUGHTERS.



MY DAD
REMARRIED
LAST MONTH.

NOW I HAVE A NEW
FAMILY. A NEW LIFE.
BUT...



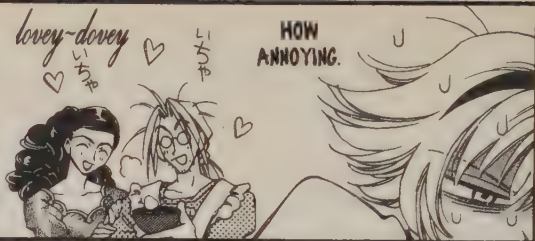
THIS IS ALL
PRETTY HARD
TO DEAL WITH!

BREAKFAST
IS SERVED.

THANK
YOU.

GOOD
MORNING,
MISS.

NATSUE WAS A
FAN OF MY DAD'S...
BUT I **STILL** CAN'T
BELIEVE A YOUNG,
PRETTY WOMAN
LIKE HER WOULD
CHOOSE HIM!



BEFORE,
WE WERE
REALLY
POOR.

HEY!

Leaves-n-rice



Miso soup
with
daikon leaves.



Pickled

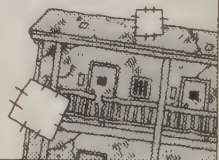


Stir-fried
with
sesame oil

AND ALL OUR MEALS
WERE MADE WITH
DAIKON LEAVES.

DAD WAS AN
ALCOHOLIC...

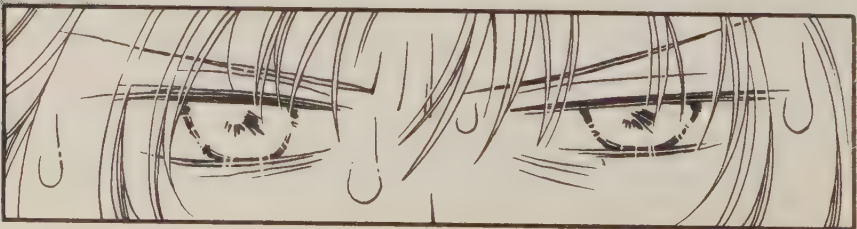
WE LIVED IN A
THIRTY YEAR-OLD,
ONE BEDROOM
APARTMENT THAT
DIDN'T EVEN
HAVE A BATH.



sparkle

sparkle

sparkle



IT'S YOUR
FAULT,
DAD!

sob
め
sob

HOW DID YOU
GET SO
VICIOUS?

IT MUST BE
BECAUSE
YOU WERE
RAISED BY
A SINGLE
DAD!

sniff sniff

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO
ALWAYS SAID "STRONG
MIND, STRONG BODY" AND
MADE ME STUDY ALL KINDS
OF MARTIAL ARTS!

EVEN THOUGH
WE DIDN'T HAVE
ANY MONEY

THIS
IS
NATSUE,
MY
STEPMOM.

DON'T WORRY,
KAORU.

SHE'S THE
PRESIDENT OF A
MAJOR COSMETICS
COMPANY AND
OWNS A BUNCH OF
FANCY APARTMENT
BUILDINGS. SHE'S
REALLY RICH.

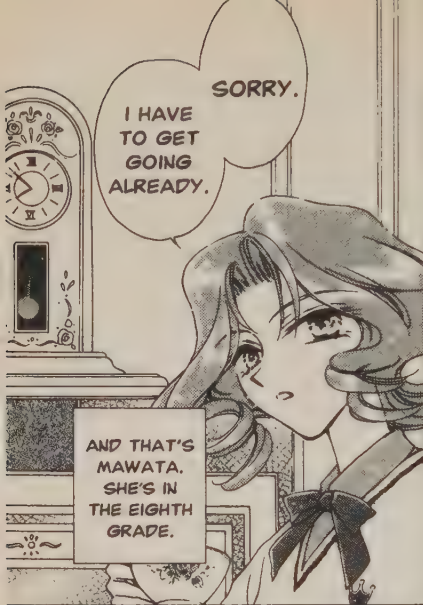
I WILL TEACH
HIMENO WHAT
IT MEANS TO
BE A PROPER
YOUNG LADY.

BUT I'D
RATHER YOU
DEVOTE
YOURSELF
TO YOUR
CREATIVE
WORK.

THAT'S
KIND
OF
YOU,

HEY,
I MADE
BREAKFAST.
YOU WANT
SOME?

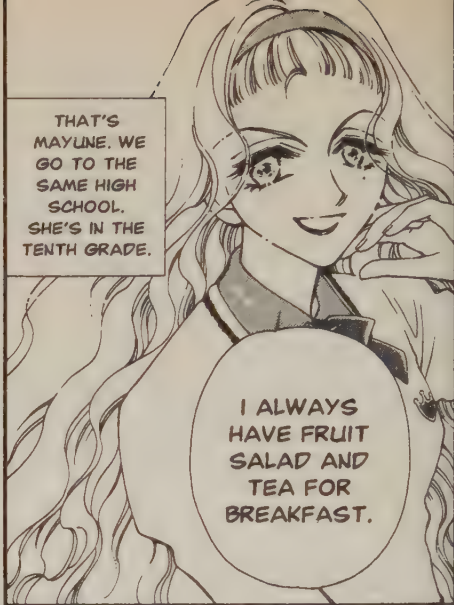
THANKS,
NATSUE!



I HAVE
TO GET
GOING
ALREADY.

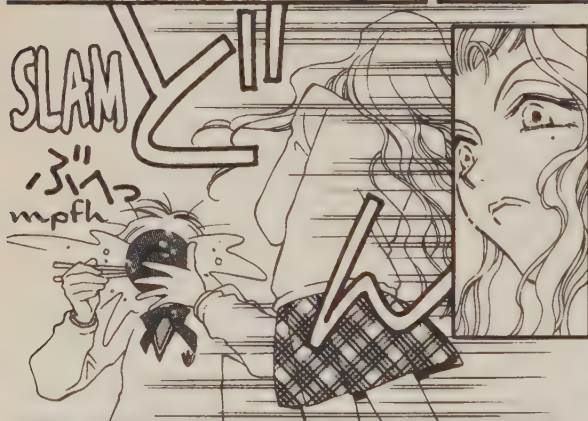
SORRY.

AND THAT'S
MAWATA.
SHE'S IN
THE EIGHTH
GRADE.



THAT'S
MAYLINE. WE
GO TO THE
SAME HIGH
SCHOOL.
SHE'S IN THE
TENTH GRADE.

I ALWAYS
HAVE FRUIT
SALAD AND
TEA FOR
BREAKFAST.



HIMENO,
HIMENO.
YOU
SHOULD
LEARN TO
BE MORE
CAREFUL.
HOHO
HO!



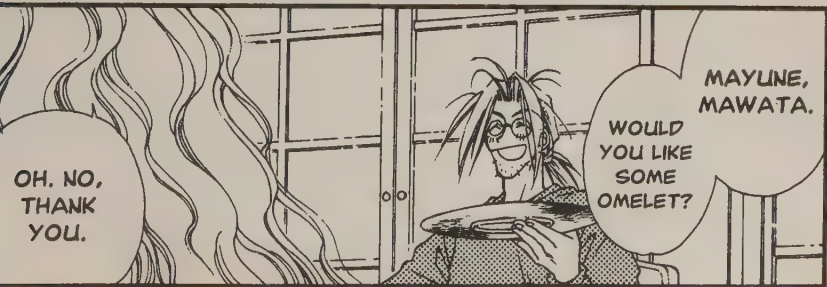
TANAKA!
WHERE'S
THE
CAR?

IT'S
READY
AND
WAITING,
MISS.

WAIT!
I'M
COMING,
TOO!



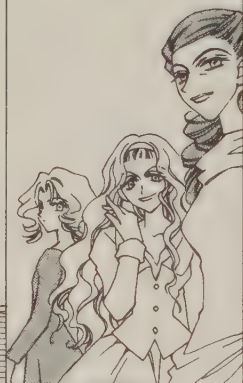
SO WHAT AM I
DOING IN A PLACE
LIKE THIS?



OH. NO,
THANK
YOU.

MAYLINE,
MAWATA.
WOULD
YOU LIKE
SOME
OMELET?

AND I HAVE A
NEW FAMILY.



I LIVE IN
A HOUSE
THAT'S
MORE
LIKE A
CASTLE...

huff

"STRONG MIND,
STRONG BODY," ^
HUH?
GUESS IT'S huff
TIME TO PUT
THAT BODY TO
THE TEST.

HAVING A CAR
TAKE ME TO
SCHOOL IS TOO
RITZY FOR ME,
ANYWAY.

huff

I'D SURE
MAKE A
LOUSY
PRINCESS!

BUT...



JUST
GO AND
CHANGE,
PLEASE.

A LITTLE
KLUTZY
THERE,
HIMENO.

IT
WASN'T
MY
FAULT!

GRRR.
MAYUNE...!

snicker

snicker

grin

YES,
MA'AM.

ONCE IN A
WHILE,
I FEEL LIKE...

THIS ISN'T
WHERE I'M
SUPPOSED
TO BE.

SLAM

SORRY
TO KEEP
YOU
WAIT...

THEY LEFT
WITHOUT
ME?

ING.

ぜん

IT'S
GONE!

THIS IS NO
TIME TO GET
DEPRESSED!

MY HIGH
SCHOOL
LIFE'S JUST
GETTING
STARTED!

clench

BUT,

I...

sniffle

I'M
STARTING TO
FEEL LIKE THE
UNLUCKIEST
PERSON IN
THE WORLD.

AH!
AND I'M
ALREADY
LATE!

I'M NOT GONNA
GIVE UP!

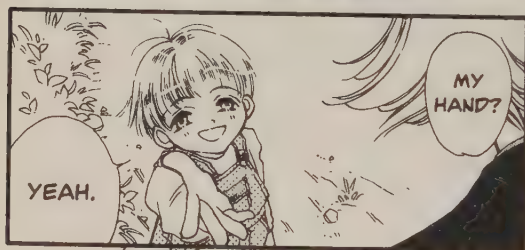
I CAN
GET TO
SCHOOL
FASTER

IF I CUT
THROUGH
THAT
FOREST.



THERE'S NO
WARMTH BETWEEN
US AT ALL.





A LITTLE BOY?





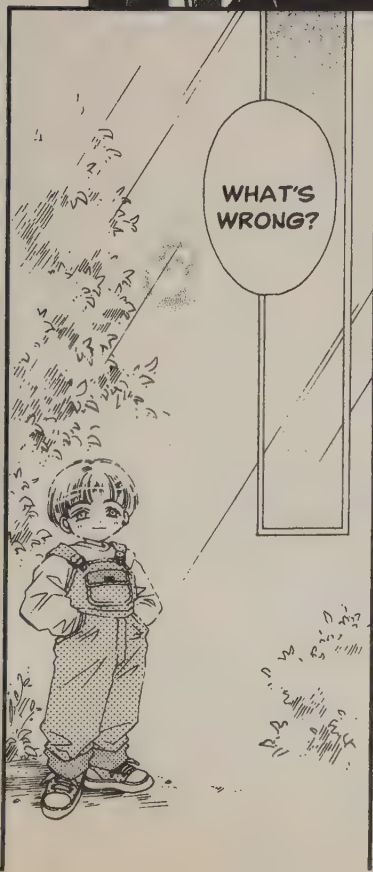
OH
NO!

I
STEPPED
ON IT!

OOPS!



I MIGHT
JUST
MAKE IT
IN TIME!



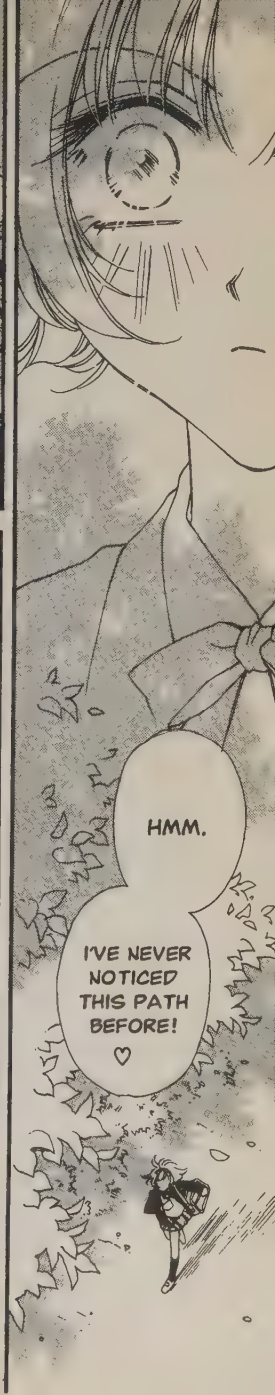
WHAT'S
WRONG?



I'M
SORRY!
THAT
MUST'VE
HURT!

WHAT
SHOULD I
DO?

IF I JUST
LEAVE IT,
IT'LL
WITHER
AND DIE.



HMM.

I'VE NEVER
NOTICED
THIS PATH
BEFORE!

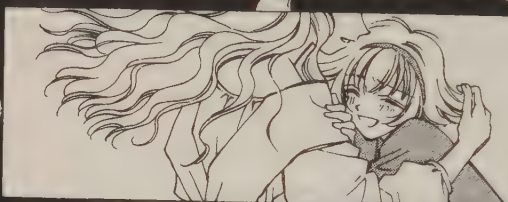








MOM!



MOM!

MOM!



MOM?

YOUR
HANDS
ARE
COLD.

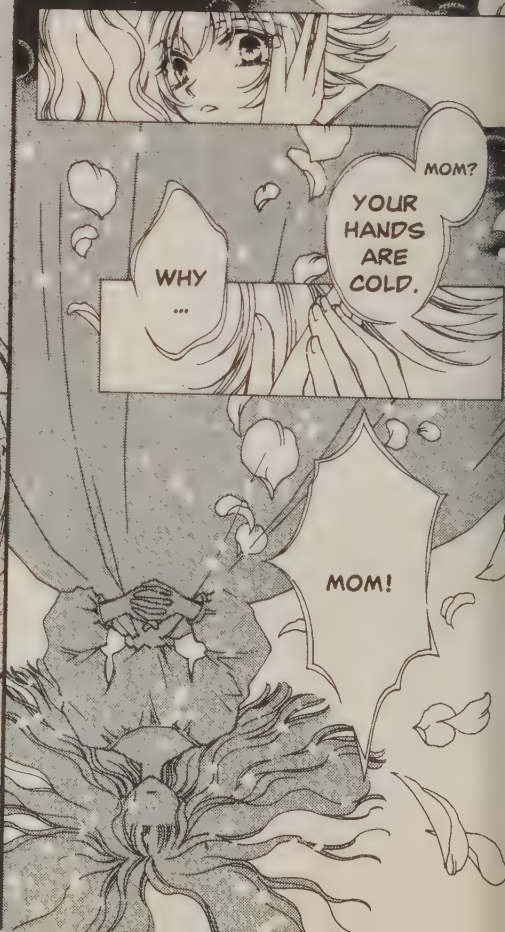
WHY
...



NO,
MOM!

YOUR
HAND...

YOUR
HAND...



MOM!

WHAT?

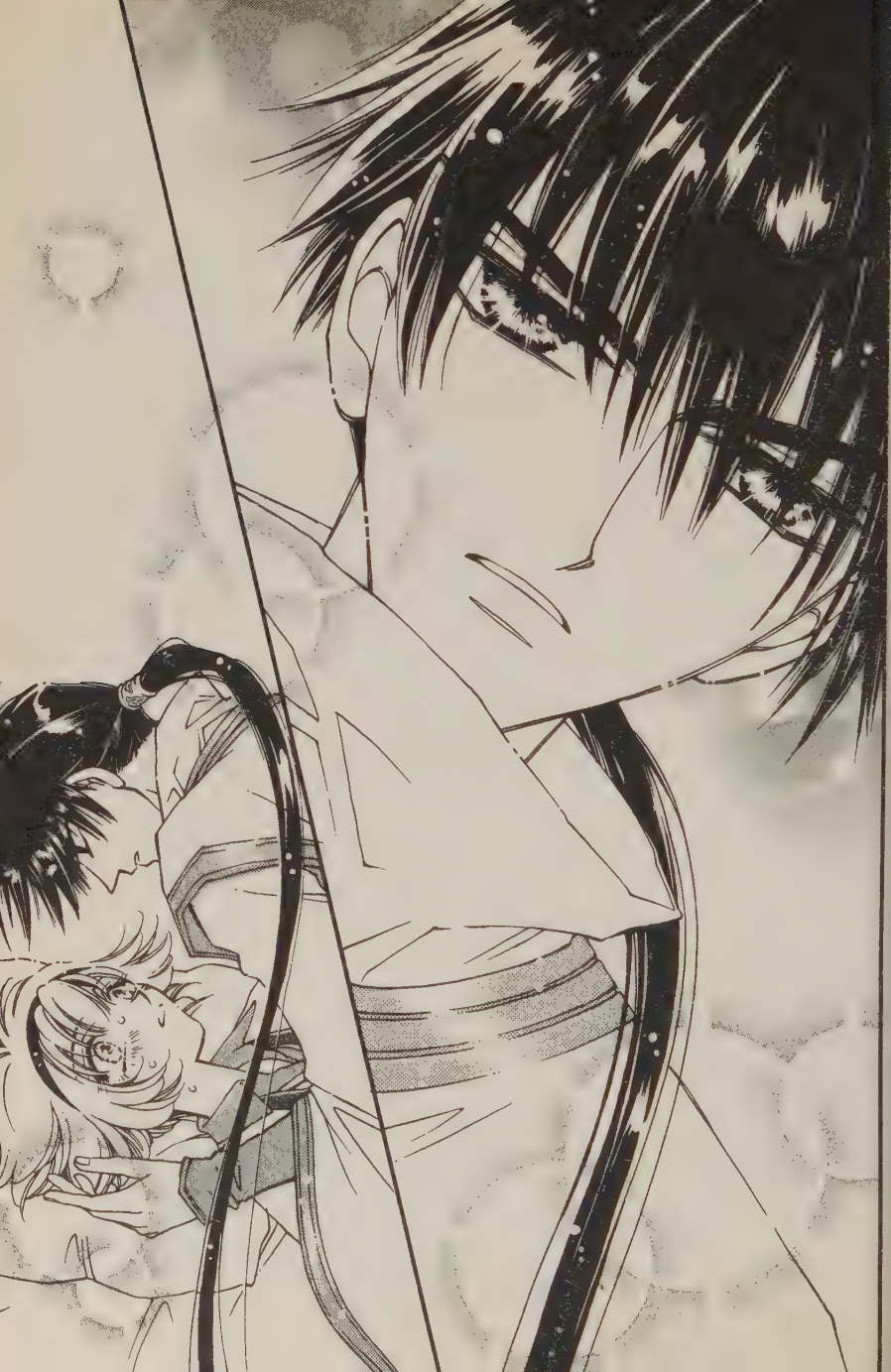
WHA...

LADY?

LADY?

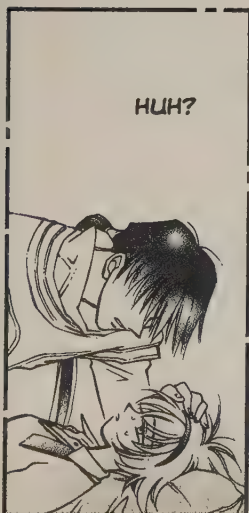
-MENO.

HIMENO.





SO WARM...



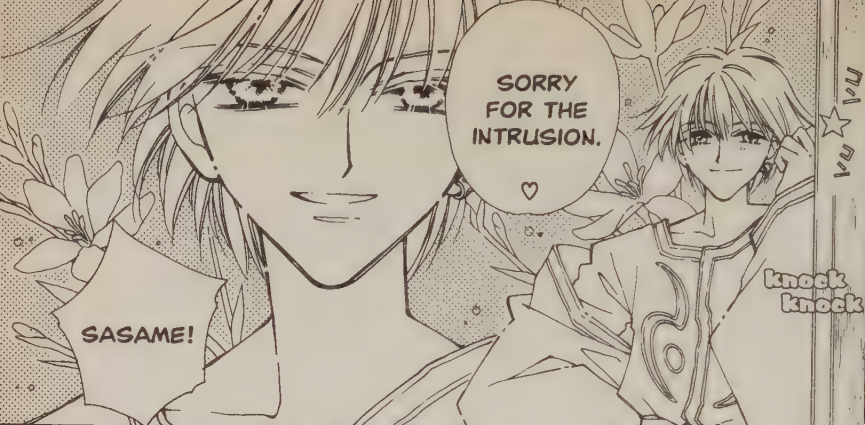
HUH?



WHO IS THAT?



THE WIND?

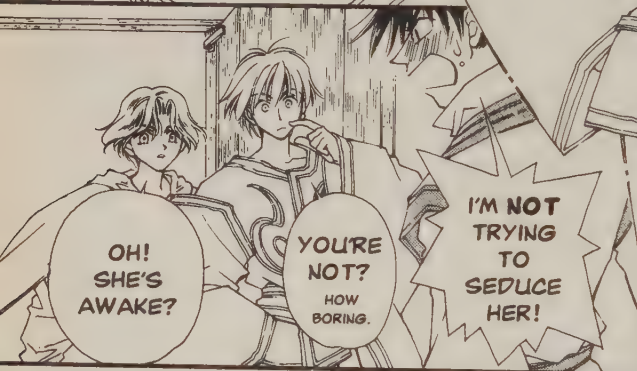


SORRY
FOR THE
INTRUSION.



knock
knock

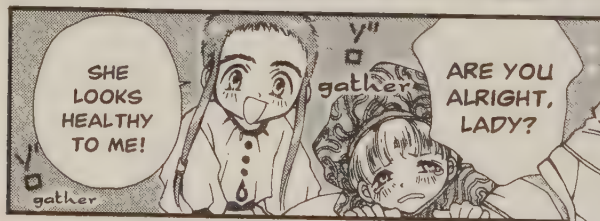
SASAME!



OH!
SHE'S
AWAKE?

YOU'RE
NOT?
HOW
BORING.

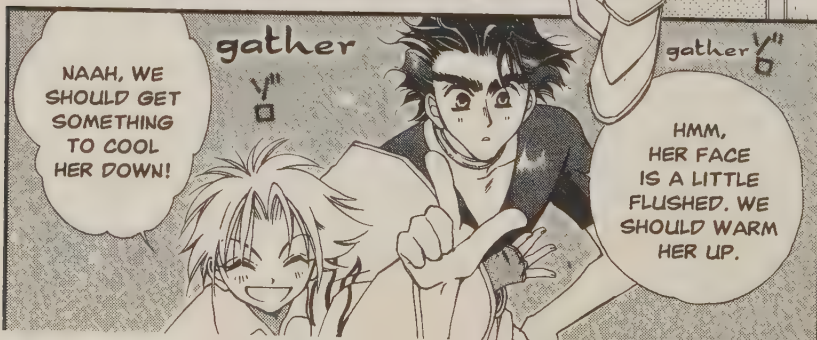
I'M NOT
TRYING
TO
SEDUCE
HER!



SHE
LOOKS
HEALTHY
TO ME!

gather

ARE YOU
ALRIGHT,
LADY?




NAAH, WE
SHOULD GET
SOMETHING
TO COOL
HER DOWN!

gather

gather

HMM,
HER FACE
IS A LITTLE
FLUSHED. WE
SHOULD WARM
HER UP.



HIS EYES...
THEY'RE
SO BLUE.

THE COLOR
OF THE
DEEPEST
SKY

YOU WERE
HAVING A
NIGHTMARE.

ARE YOU
ALRIGHT?

ARE YOU
AWAKE?

SWOON

ひょ

JEEZ HAYATE.
YOU'RE TRYING
TO SEDUCE HER
ALREADY?

HWA!

YOUR
FACE IS
RED.
DO YOU
HAVE A
FEVER?

ひゃー？
Hwa?

IF SHE'S
GOING TO
FAINT THAT
EASILY, SHE'S
USELESS!

THAT'S
EXACTLY
WHY WE
NEED TO BE
CAREFUL!

BUT SHE
MADE LEAFE!

?

HAYATE?

AAH,
WE'LL JUST
USE YOUR
HOMEPAGE
TO RECRUIT
HER.

LOOK, WE'RE
RUNNING OUT
OF TIME! YOU
KNOW THIS!

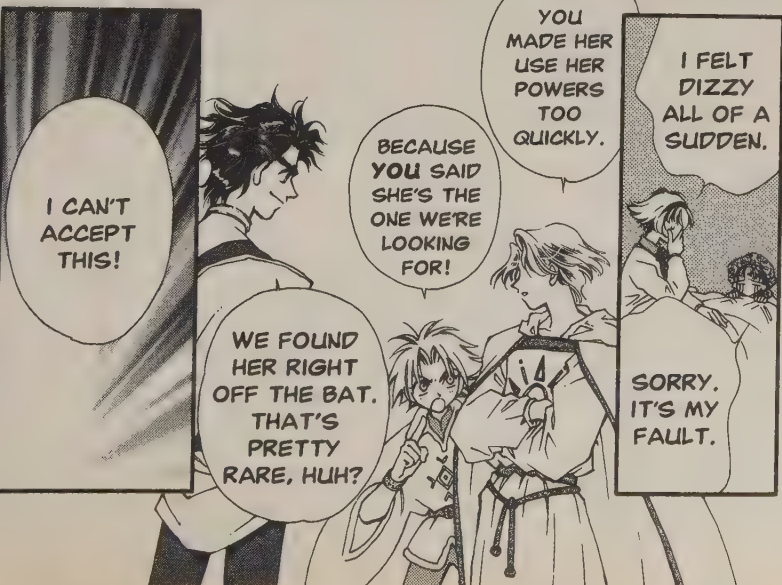
DO YOU
REALLY
THINK WE'LL
FIND HER
LIKE THAT?

WE HAVE
TO BE VERY
CAREFUL ABOUT
CHOOSING THE
PRÉTEAR.

WHO ARE
THESE
PEOPLE?

WHAT'S
WRONG?

THEIR CLOTHES
ARE WEIRD. AND
WHAT THEY'RE
SAYING
DOESN'T MAKE
ANY SENSE.



ARE SOME
KIND OF CULT!

SO, LET'S
FIGHT THE
PRINCESS OF
DISASTER
TOGETHER,
HUH? WHAT
DO YOU
SAY?

※宗教的な維持、この場合、非常に異質な考え方を熱狂的に支持する人々を指す。

pat

THIS TIME,
LET'S...

Yeah! Yeah!

OR
THIS?

COULD
THEY
REALLY
BE
LIKE
THIS?

?

BUT
THEY'RE SO
HANDSOME!

LIKE I
COULD! YEAH,
RIGHT!

YOU'RE
THE ONE
WHO GOES
INTO TOWN
TO PICK
UP GIRLS.

LET'S
SAVE
THE
WORLD!

I DON'T KNOW
WHAT THE HECK
THEY'LL DO TO
ME IF I STICK
AROUND!

BRAIN-
WASHING

I HAVE TO
GET AWAY NOW,
WHILE I HAVE
THE CHANCE!

WHILE THEY'RE
STILL ARGUING.

SACRIFICE

EXPERIMENTS

I HAVE TO
GET OUT
OF HERE!

いま
せかい
に
きき
せま
世界に危機が
迫っている

YOU WERE
CHOSEN
TO BE THE
PRÉTEAR.

I DON'T
UNDERSTAND
WHAT'S GOING
ON. AT ALL!

THE
WORLD
IS IN
DANGER.

THE
PRÉ...

WHAT?

TH...

AND THE ONLY
ONE WHO CAN
STOP HER IS
THE PRÉTEAR.

THESE
GUYS...


THE PRINCESS
WANTS TO
STEAL "LEAFE,"
WHICH IS THE
SOURCE OF ALL
LIFE.

HUH?

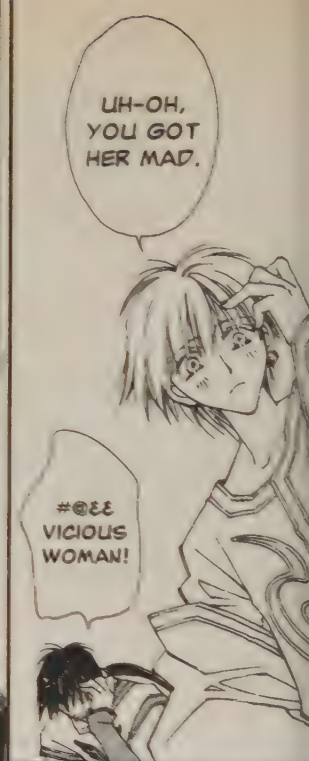
YOU'VE
SEEN
THE RED
SNOW,
RIGHT?

IF WE
DON'T DO
SOMETHING,
THE WHOLE
WORLD WILL
DIE.

THAT'S
THE WORK
OF THE
PRINCESS
OF
DISASTER.



YEAH, YOU
REALLY KNOW
HOW TO HANDLE
THE GIRLS,
HAYATE.



UH-OH,
YOU GOT
HER MAD.



OH
SHUT
UP.

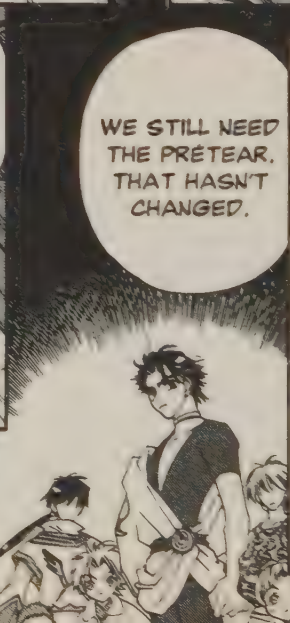
#@@@
VICIOUS
WOMAN!




HEY,

ARE YOU
SURE IT'S
ALRIGHT TO
JUST LET
HER GO LIKE
THAT?

SHE SAID
SHE WAS
GOIN' HOME,
BUT...



WE STILL NEED
THE PRÉTEAR.
THAT HASN'T
CHANGED.



ANYWAY,
LET'S SEE
HOW THINGS
TURN OUT.



The tulips have bloomed
さーいーたー
♪
The tulips have bloomed
さーいーたー
♪

DO YOU REALLY
THINK WE COULD
DEPEND ON A
TULIP-HEADED
VALLEY GIRL
LIKE HER?

STAB!



Heh
heh

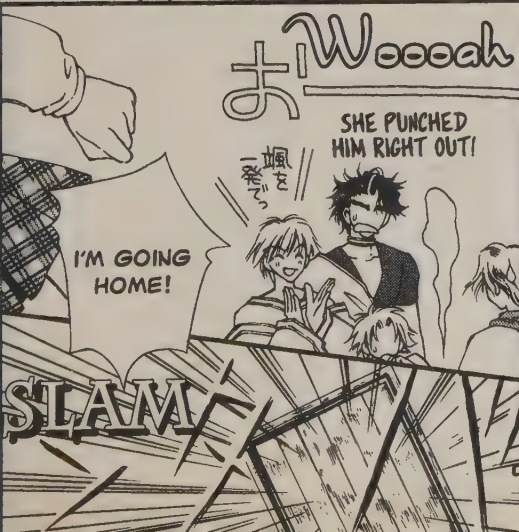
THE
NAME'S
NOT
"TOOTS,"
IT'S
HIMENO!

AND TAKE A
LOOK AT MY
SKIN! DO I
LOOK ALL
TANNED
LIKE A
VALLEY
GIRL?!



YOU,
TOOTS.

WHO...
WHO'RE
YOU
CALLING
A VALLEY
GIRL?!

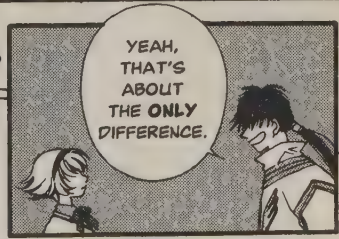


お! Woooah

SHE PUNCHED
HIM RIGHT OUT!

I'M GOING
HOME!

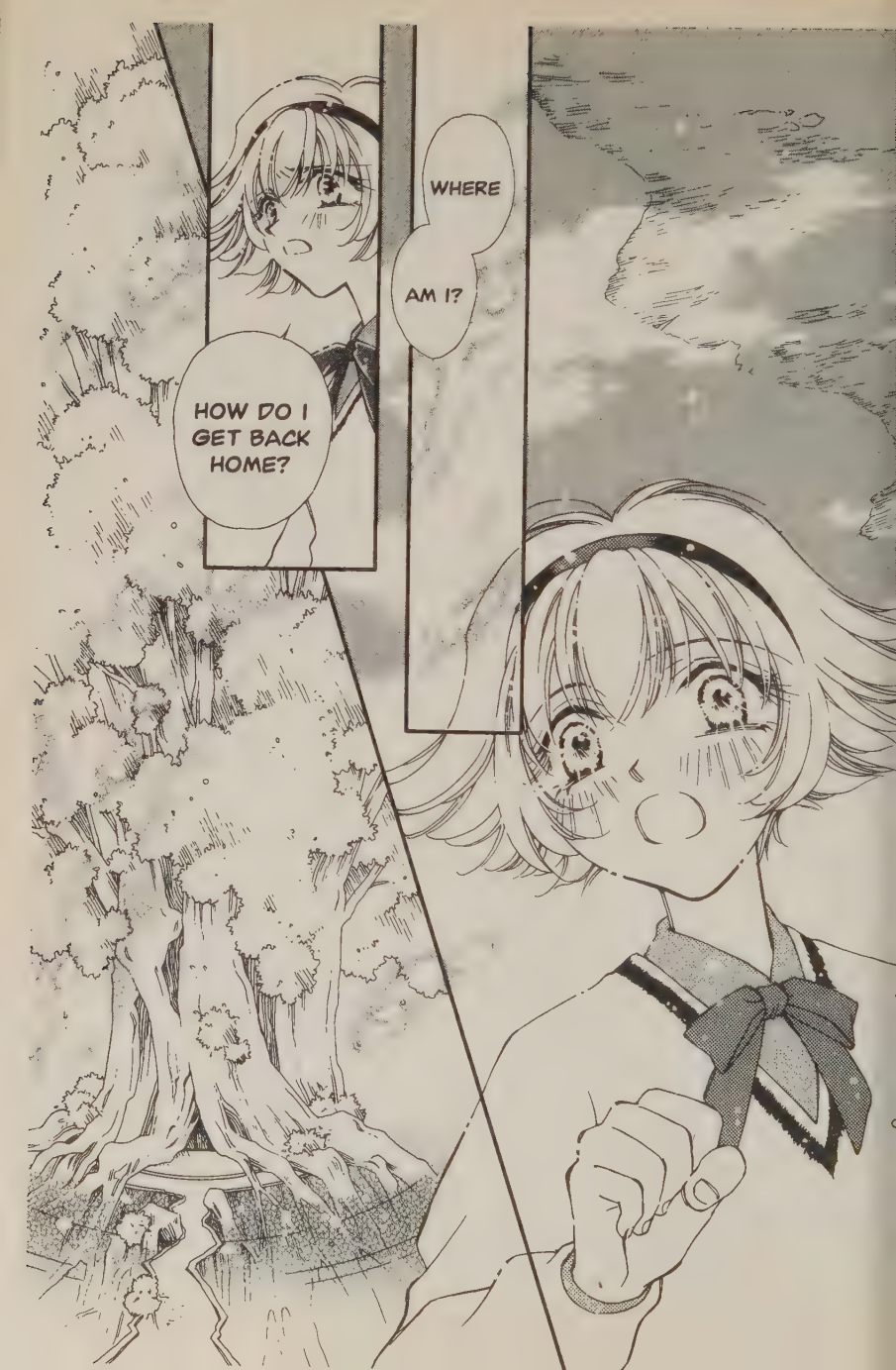
SLAM



YEAH,
THAT'S
ABOUT
THE ONLY
DIFFERENCE.



THA-WHAM!



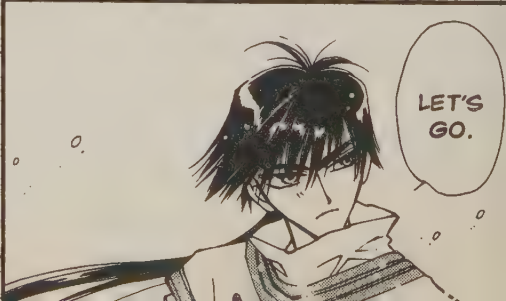
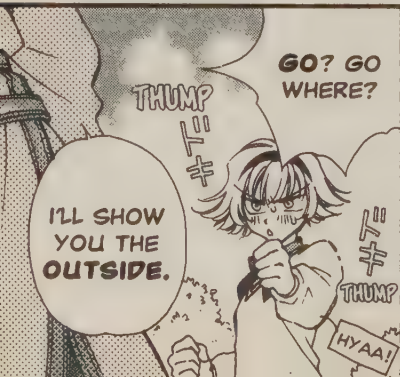
HOW DO I
GET BACK
HOME?

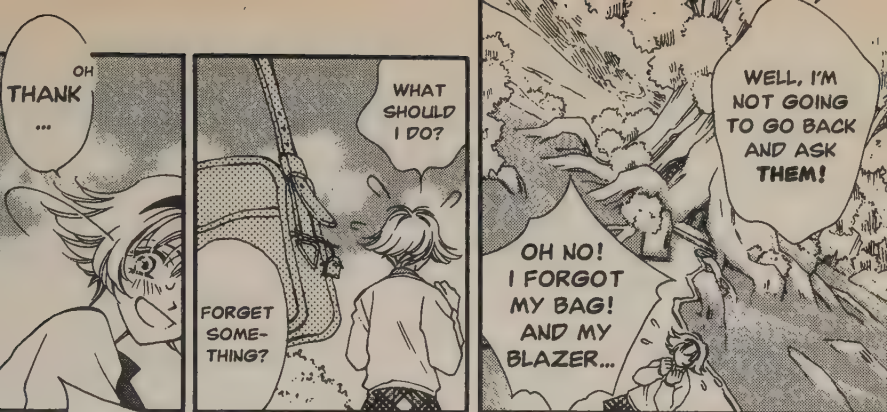
WHERE

AM I?

A black and white manga-style illustration. In the lower center, a character with short, spiky hair is seen from behind, standing on a stone ledge or roof. They are wearing a light-colored long-sleeved shirt, a plaid skirt, and dark knee-high socks with white shoes. Their arms are crossed. Above them, a bird is in flight, wings spread. The background is a dark, textured sky with a large, bright circular light source on the left and a smaller one above it. A speech bubble is located in the upper right corner.

I
DON'T
THINK
SHE
CAN.





OH
THANK
...

WHAT
SHOULD
I DO?

FORGET
SOME-
THING?

WELL, I'M
NOT GOING
TO GO BACK
AND ASK
THEM!

OH NO!
I FORGOT
MY BAG!
AND MY
BLAZER...



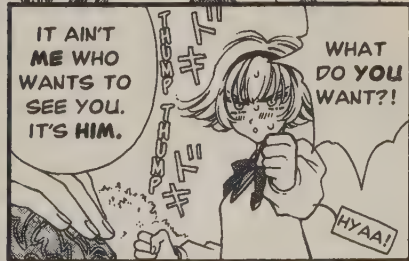
YOU!!



IT'S
THAT
BOY...

ARE YOU
ALRIGHT,
LADY?

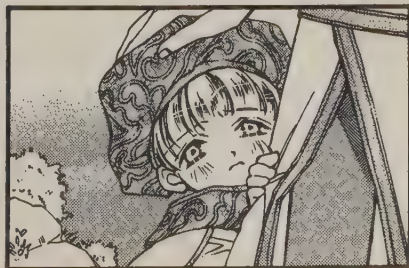
ARE YOU
STILL
MAD?



IT AIN'T
ME WHO
WANTS TO
SEE YOU.
IT'S HIM.

WHAT
DO YOU
WANT?!

HYAA!



I AM
SO LATE!

IF
YOU'LL
EXCUSE
ME...

YAK
YOU
JUST
STARTED
COMING TO
THIS SCHOOL
AND YOU'RE
ALREADY
LATE?
YAK

I'M
SORRY.

HAKUTOKU
PRIVATE
ACADEMY

IT'S LIKE SOME
DREAM.

なんか夢でも
見てみたい

ALL I DID
WAS TAKE A
SHORTCUT TO
SCHOOL AND...
近道して
学校へ行くこと
しただけなのに...

SCHOOL?

uh-oh



OK,
THEN...



HEY,
LADY?



JUST
KEEP GOING
STRAIGHT.


YOU'LL FIND
THE PATH TO
TAKE YOU TO
THE "OTHER
SIDE."



HUH?



YEAH.
LATER.

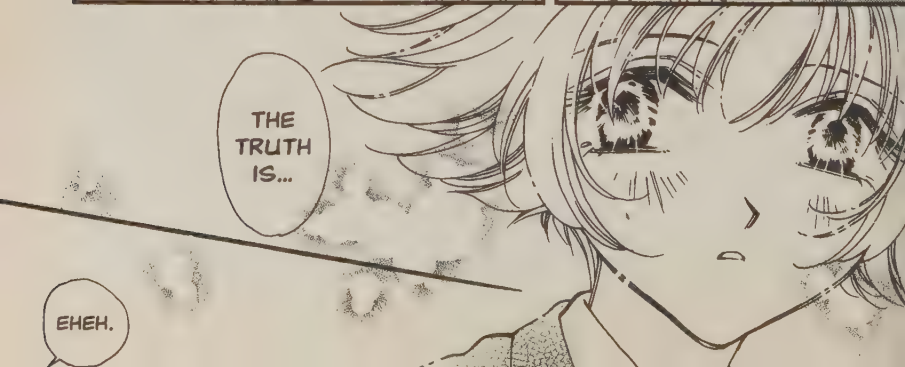
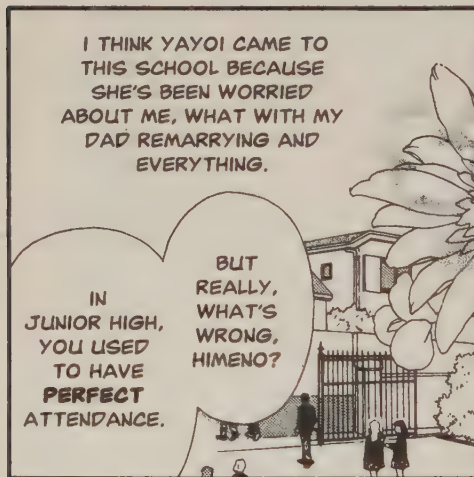
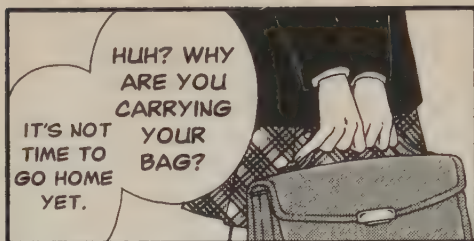


BYE-BYE!
SEE YOU
LATER!



UH-
HUH.

BYE-
BYE.



YOU'RE
JUST NOW
GETTING TO
SCHOOL?

WEREN'T
IN MUCH
OF A
HURRY,
WERE
YOU?

I AM
SERIOUSLY
UNLUCKY.

sigh

WELL, WELL.
IF IT ISN'T
LITTLE
MISS
HIMENO.

WONDER
WHAT
MOTHER
WOULD SAY
IF SHE
FOUND
OUT.

GONNA
TELL
ON ME.

IT WAS ALL
HER FAULT,
BUT SHE'S
STILL...

I CAN'T
BELIEVE
SOMEONE
FROM MY
FAMILY WAS
CALLED TO
THE
COUNSELOR'S
OFFICE.

DON'T
WORRY
ABOUT IT,
HIMENO.

YOU'RE THE
ONE WHO
STARTED
TALKING
TO ME!

DON'T
TALK TO
ME AT
SCHOOL!

YOU'RE AN
EMBARR-
ASSMENT!



OH,
YEAH.

HEY,
ARE YOU
FREE
TOMO-
RROW?

TULIP-
HEADED
VALLEY
GIRL!

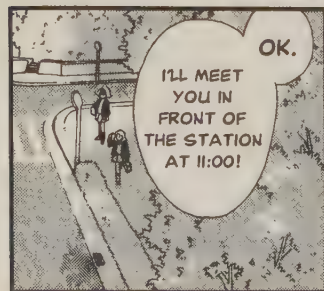


WELL,
WHAT DO
YOU SAY
WE GO
SHOPPING?

UH-
HUH.

THERE'S
A NEW
STORE
AT THE
SHIN-
YAMATE
STATION!

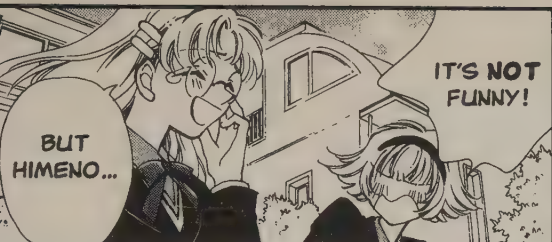
GREAT!
LET'S
GO!



OK.

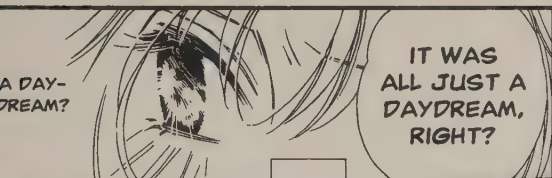
I'LL MEET
YOU IN
FRONT OF
THE STATION
AT 11:00!

HEH
HEH.



BUT
HIMENO...

IT'S NOT
FUNNY!



A DAY-
DREAM?

IT WAS
ALL JUST A
DAYDREAM,
RIGHT?



あの風景が？
あのふうけいが？

THAT
SCENERY?

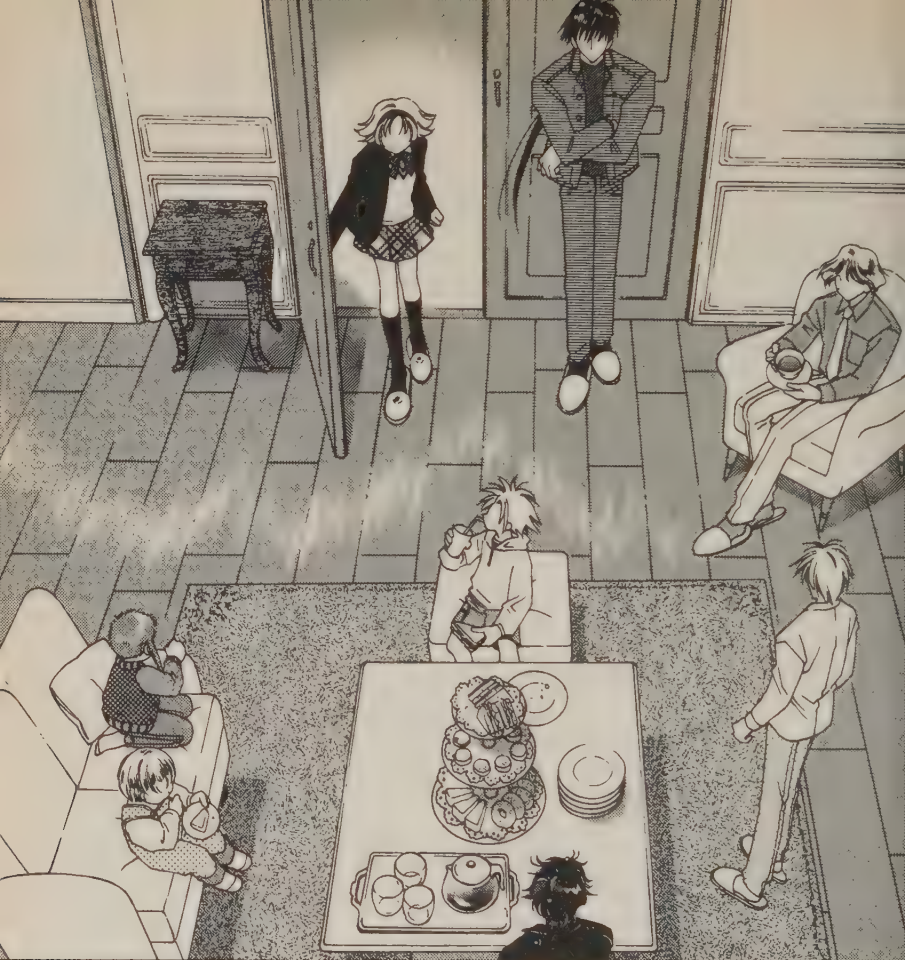
あの少年たちが？
あのしょうねんたちが？

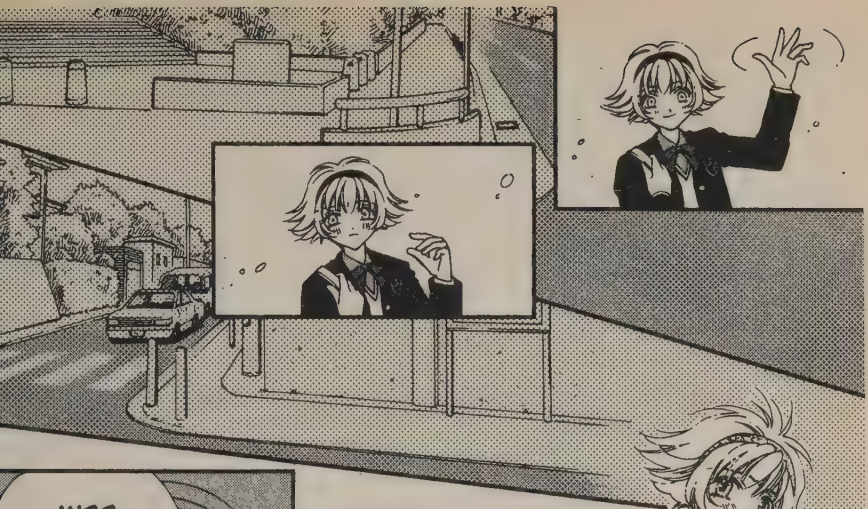
THOSE
BOYS?

THAT...
あの



A
H
A
H
A
H
A
H
A





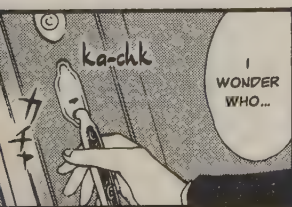
MISS
HIMENO,
YOU HAVE
SOME
VISITORS.


I'M
HOME.

SHE'S
RIGHT.

IT HAD TO
HAVE BEEN A
DREAM.

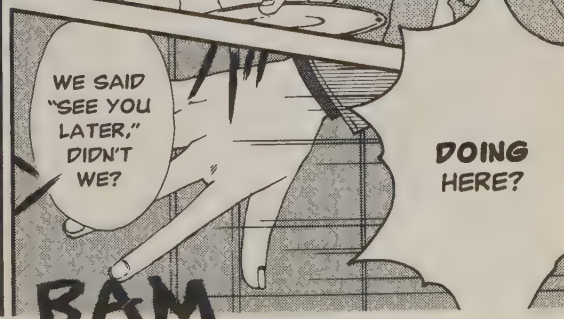
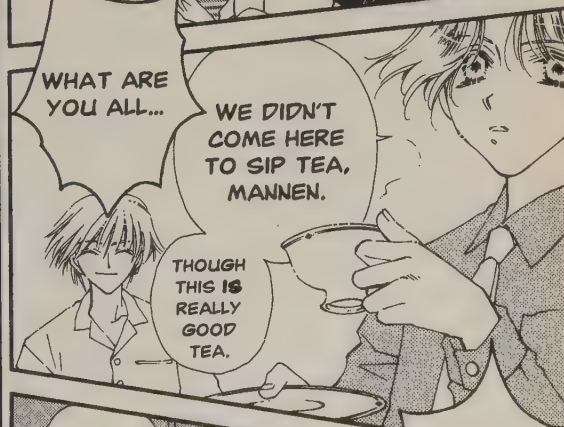
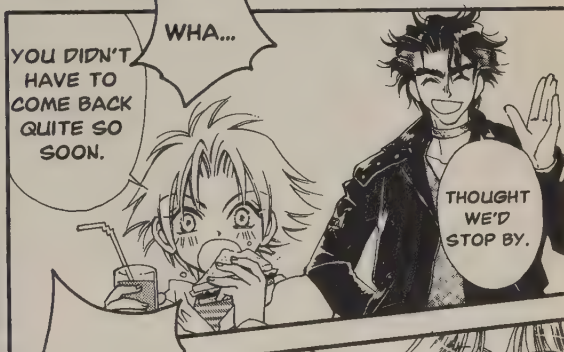
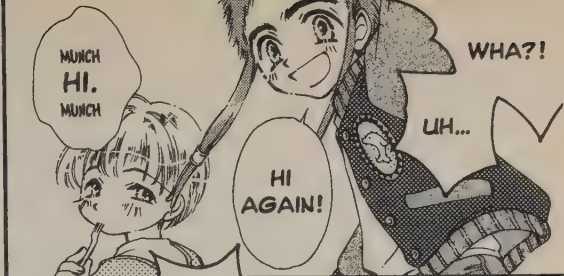
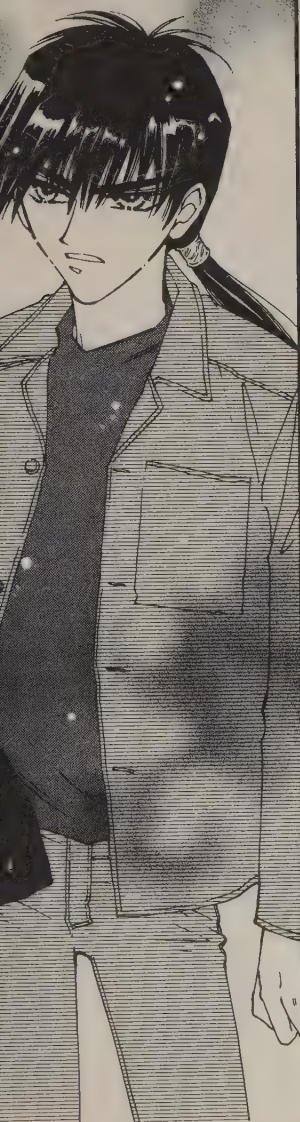
VISITORS?





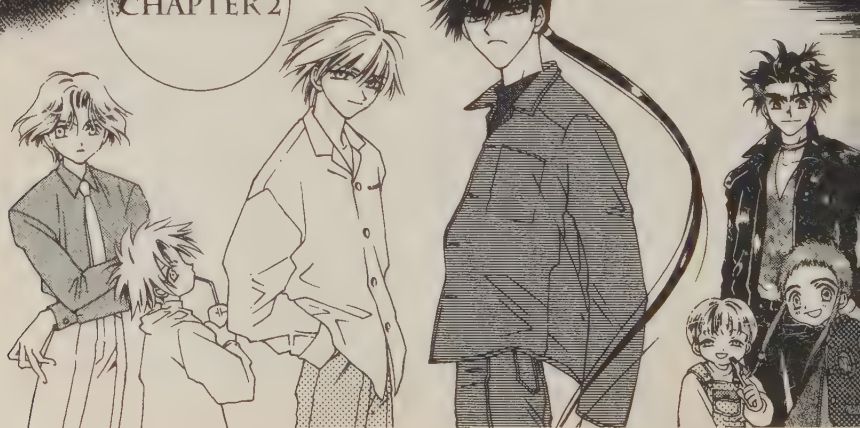
WE NEED
TO TALK.

I AM...
REALLY
UNLUCKY!

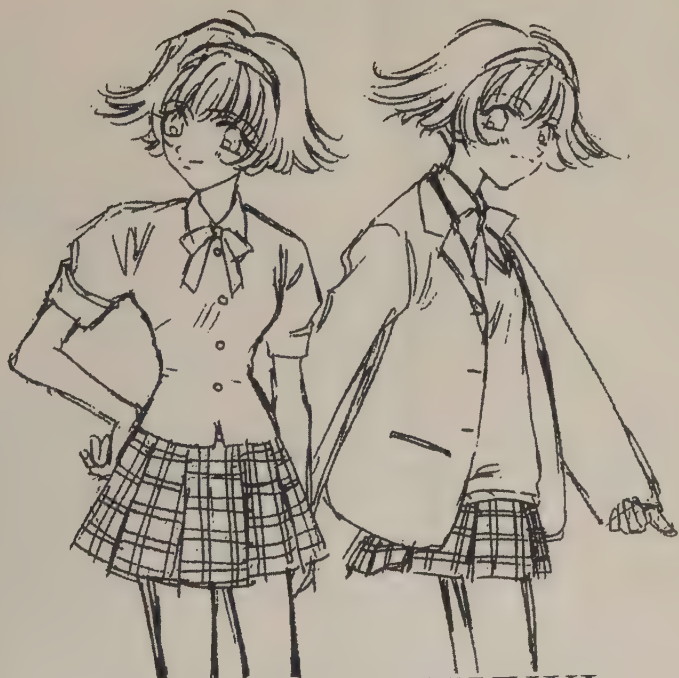




CHAPTER 2



H I M E N O



HIMENO AWAYUKI

Hair: Reddish-brown Eyes: Reddish-brown

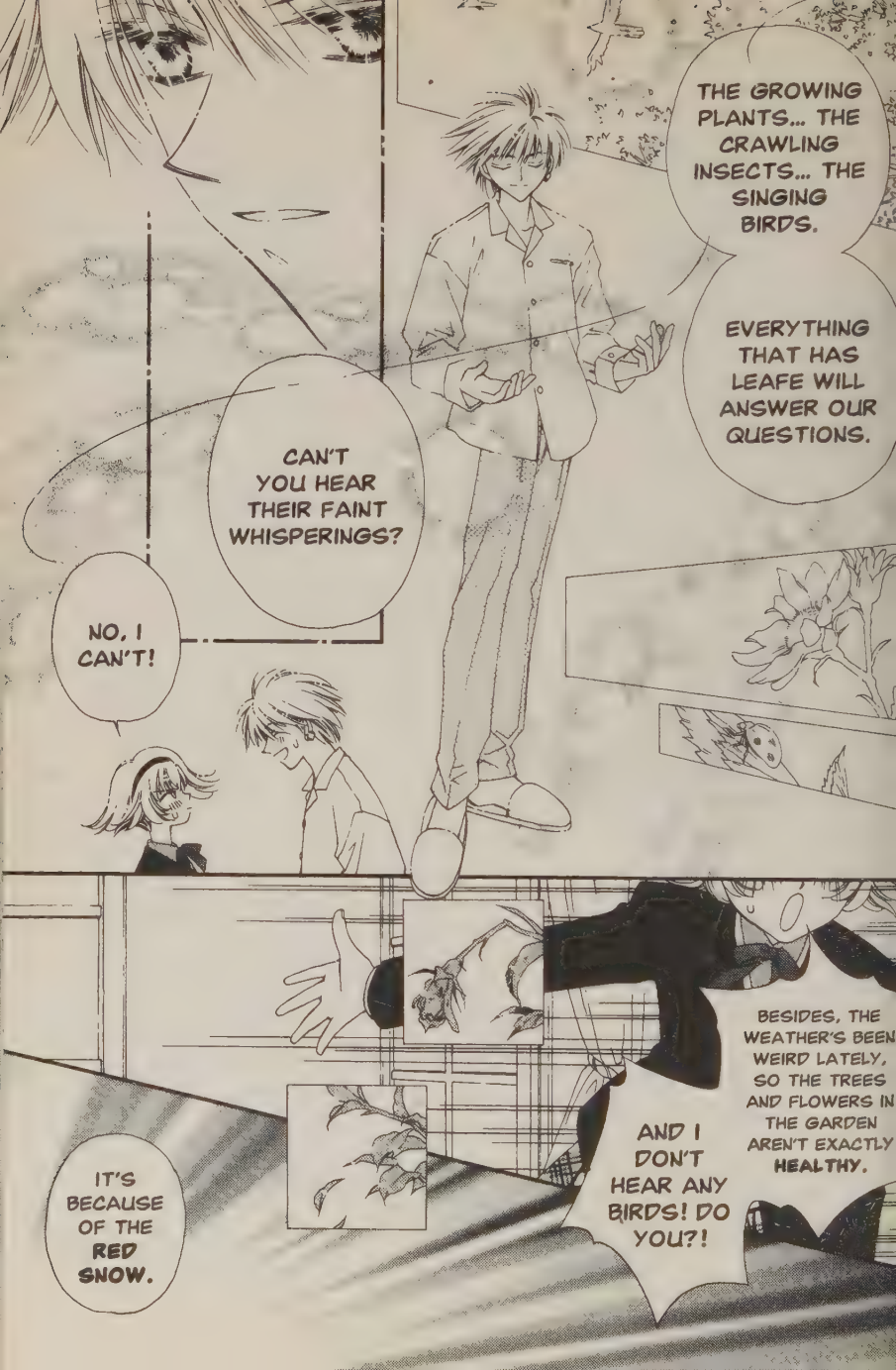
Birthday: July 9 = Sign: Cancer

Blood Type: O

Special Techniques: Martial arts (karate, kendo, aikido, tai chi)

Hobbies: Gardening

Favorite drink: Apple-flavored Tea



THE GROWING
PLANTS... THE
CRAWLING
INSECTS... THE
SINGING
BIRDS.

EVERYTHING
THAT HAS
LEAFE WILL
ANSWER OUR
QUESTIONS.

CAN'T
YOU HEAR
THEIR FAINT
WHISPERINGS?

NO, I
CAN'T!

IT'S
BECAUSE
OF THE
RED
SNOW.

AND I
DON'T
HEAR ANY
BIRDS! DO
YOU?!

BESIDES, THE
WEATHER'S BEEN
WEIRD LATELY,
SO THE TREES
AND FLOWERS IN
THE GARDEN
AREN'T EXACTLY
HEALTHY.



WHY ARE
YOU HERE?!
AND HOW DID
YOU EVEN
KNOW WHERE
I LIVE?

YOU DIDN'T
FOLLOW ME,
DID YOU?

I DON'T
BELIEVE
IT.

THEY'RE
CULTISTS AND
STALKERS! EW!
AND DOUBLE
EW!

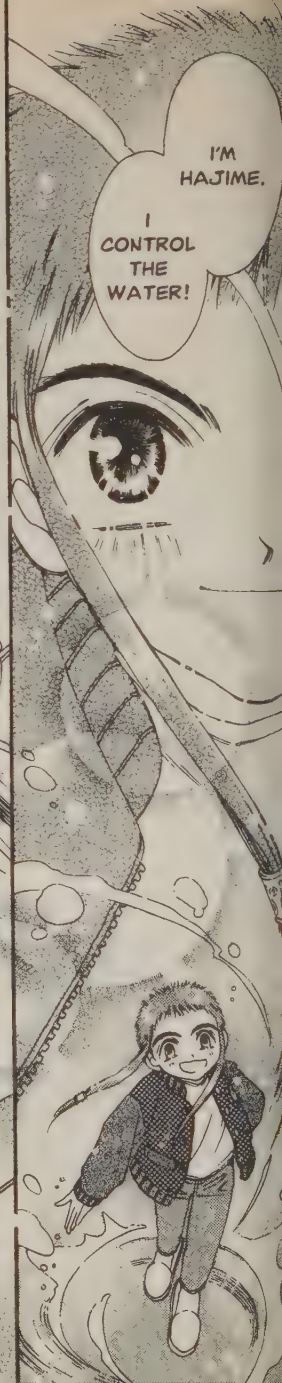
smile
= 3 =
% 10

WE JUST
FOLLOWED
THE SOUND.



I
CONTROL
THE
LIGHT.

I'M
KEI.

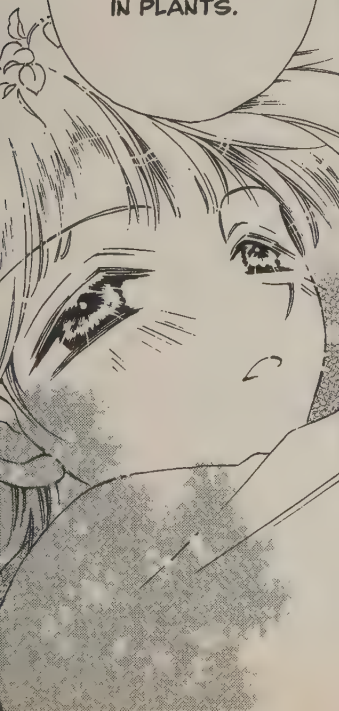


I'M
HAJIME.

I
CONTROL
THE
WATER!



I'M SHIN.
I CONTROL
THE LEAFE
IN PLANTS.



AIR, WATER,
ANIMALS
AND EVEN
PLANTS...

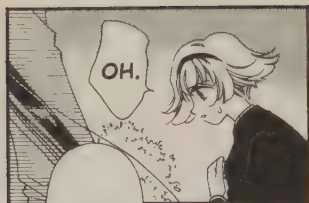
EVERYTHING
THAT HAS
POWER WILL
HAVE TO BE
ROBBED OF
ITS LEAFE IF
IT'S TOUCHED
BY THE RED
SNOW.



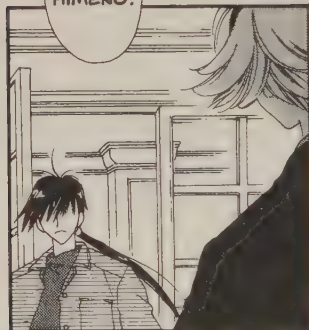
RIGHT NOW,
IT'S ONLY
ENOUGH TO
AFFECT
PLANTS, BUT
EVENTUALLY...

HIMENO,
WATCH!





HIMENO.



IS THIS...
MAGIC?



I'M
ALRIGHT

HEY,
SHIN!

huff
huff

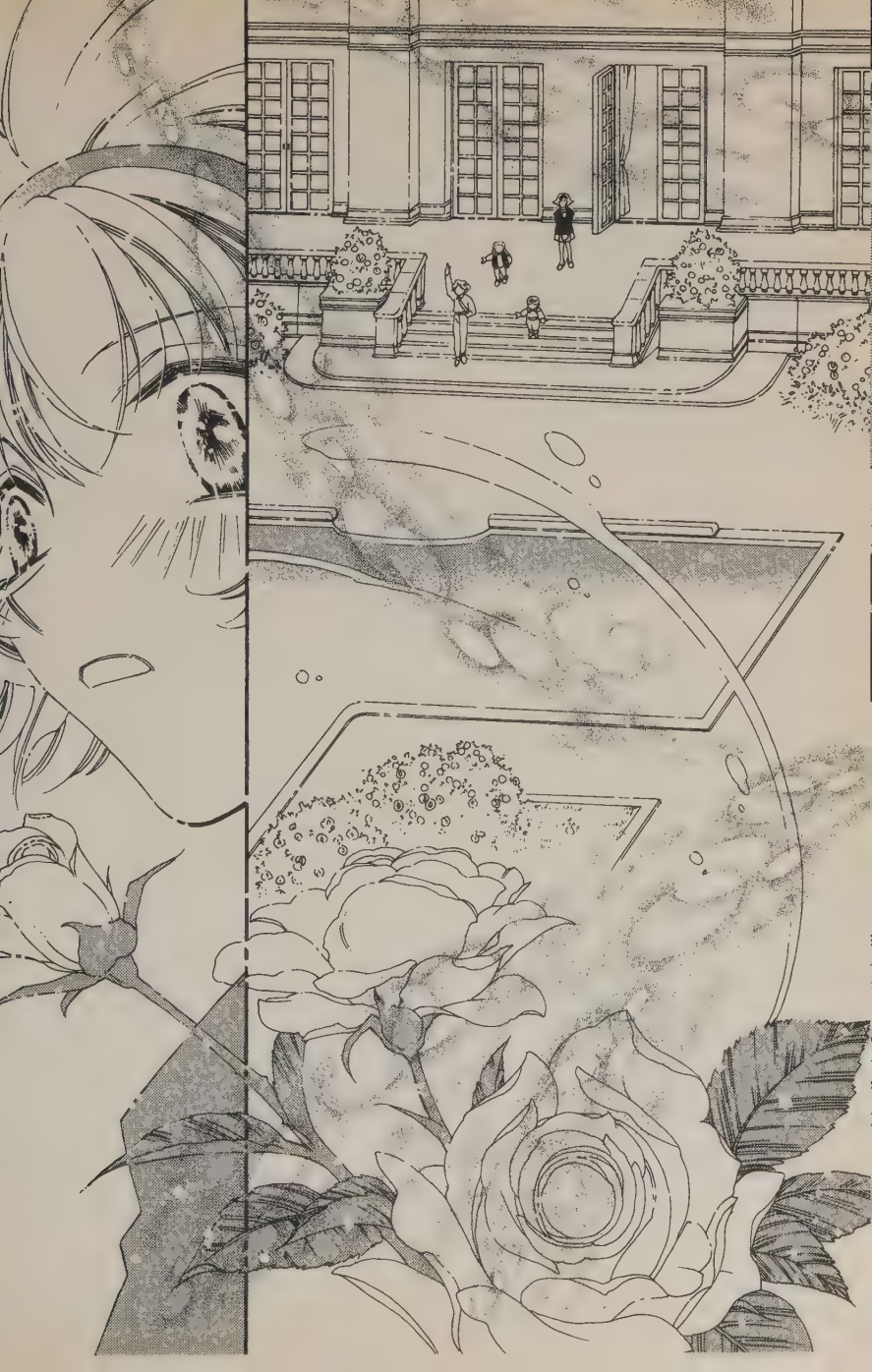


A
MIRACLE?



WE ARE THE
LEAFE KNIGHTS.
WE PROTECT THE
LEAFE.

THAT'S OUR
JOB.



THIS IS ALL
A LIE. OF
COURSE
IT'S A LIE.

YES.

WHO DO
YOU THINK
YOU ARE,
BURSTING
INTO PEOPLE'S
HOUSES AND
MAKING UP
WEIRD
STORIES?

SO WHY AM I
SO SCARED?

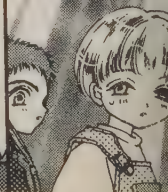
ALL
YOU'VE
DONE IS
SHOW ME
SOME
WEIRD
MAGIC
TRICKS.
WHY
SHOULD I
BELIEVE
YOU?!

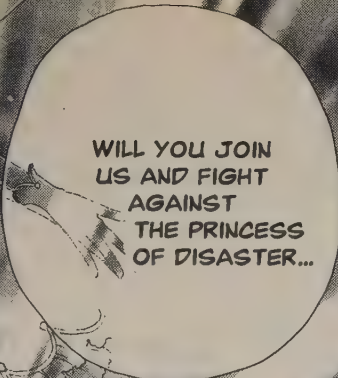
TO SAVE
THE WORLD.

AS THE
PRÉTEAR?

I'M
SCARED.

F...
FIGHT?





WILL YOU JOIN
US AND FIGHT
AGAINST
THE PRINCESS
OF DISASTER...

THE PRINCESS
OF DISASTER
WILL CONSUME
THE LEAF,

AND
EVERYTHING
WILL DIE.

THE RED
SNOW IS
A SIGN
THAT THE
PRINCESS
OF DISASTER
WILL APPEAR.

DO YOU
UNDERSTAND?
IT'S JUST
THE BEGINNING.

BUT IT
WON'T
STOP
THERE.

WARMTH,
LIGHT, SOUND,
THE MOVEMENT
OF THE AIR... IT
WILL ALL BE
CONSUMED.
THE WORLD
WILL BECOME
EMPTY.



NOW
WILL YOU
BELIEVE
US?

HAYATE
HAS A
SHORT
TEMPER.
♡

SORRY.

HE
SCARED
YOU,
DIDN'T
HE?

GRRR...

SHOOOOO

I'M
GO.

I
CONTROL
HEAT.

I'M
MANNEN!

I
CONTROL
COLD.

sparkle



fwoooo

HUH?

slump

WHAA?

O X Δ □

HMPF.

STOP
PICKING
ON THE POOR
GIRL.

BUT HAYATE'S
NOT IN THE
MOOD TO
LISTEN TO
ANY OF THIS
RIGHT NOW.

NO.

SAS-
AME?

ARE YOU
AGAINST
CHOOSING
HER, TOO?

THAT'S
ALL FINE
AND
GOOD,

BUT
...

I DON'T THINK
WHAT'S
COMING IS
GOING TO
WAIT FOR US.

Rustle

BESIDES,
HIMENO
LOOKS
CONFUSED.

LET'S
JUST
CALL IT
A DAY.

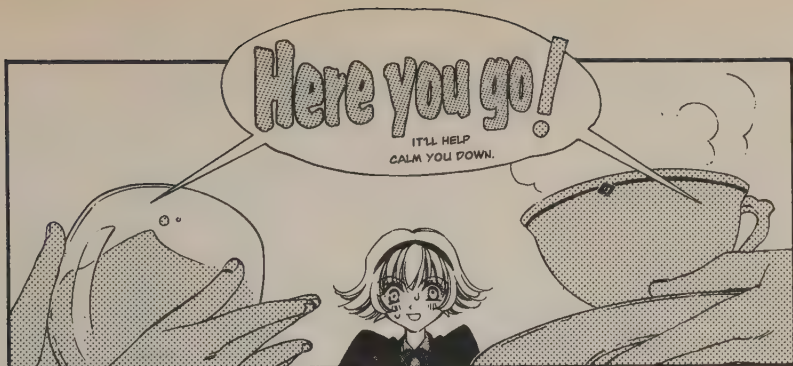
PROBABLY
SOME
LOW-
CLASS...

k-chk

HIMENO
HAS
VISITORS?

MUST BE
SOME OF HER
FRIENDS FROM
THE **POOR**
NEIGHBOR-
HOOD.



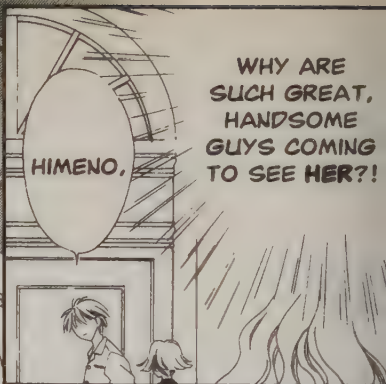




WE NEED YOU.

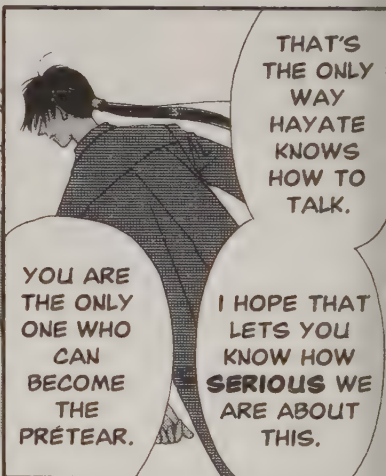
100t

GONG!



HIMENO,

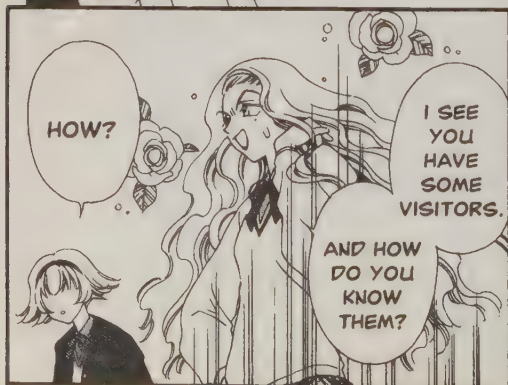
WHY ARE SUCH GREAT, HANDSOME GUYS COMING TO SEE HER?!



THAT'S THE ONLY WAY HAYATE KNOWS HOW TO TALK.

YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN BECOME THE PRÉTEAR.

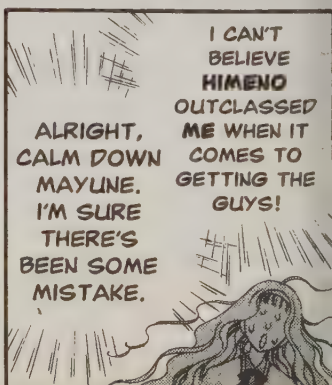
I HOPE THAT LETS YOU KNOW HOW SERIOUS WE ARE ABOUT THIS.



HOW?

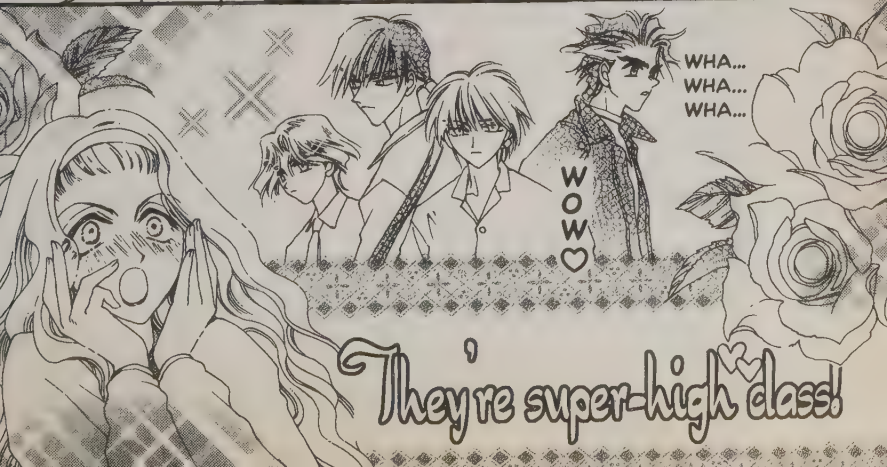
I SEE YOU HAVE SOME VISITORS.

AND HOW DO YOU KNOW THEM?



I CAN'T BELIEVE HIMENO OUTCLASSED ME WHEN IT COMES TO GETTING THE GUYS!

ALRIGHT, CALM DOWN MAYUNE. I'M SURE THERE'S BEEN SOME MISTAKE.



WHAT

...

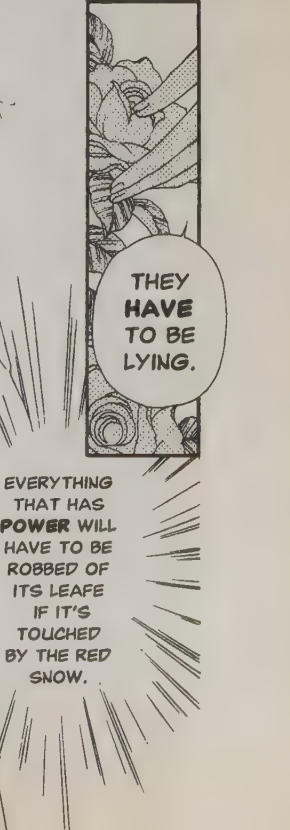
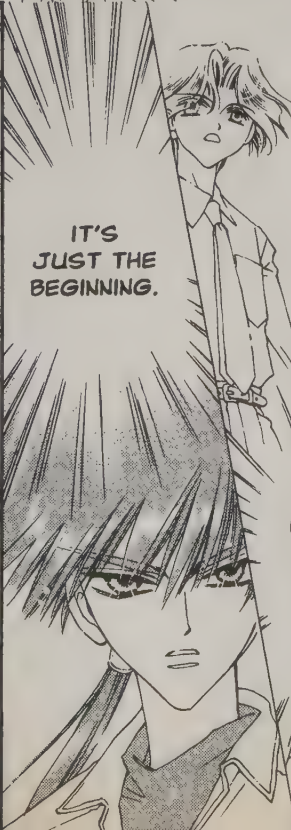
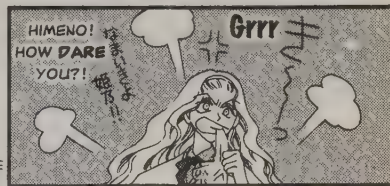
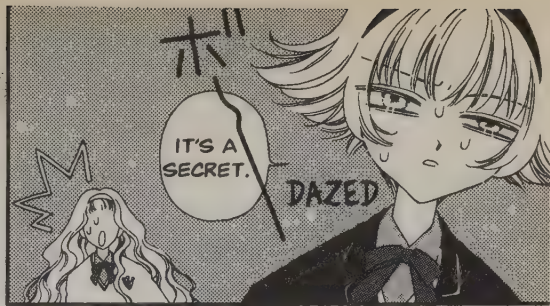
SHOULD
I DO?

WE NEED YOU.

DIE!

SHE'S A
LOST
CAUSE.





WHO ARE YOU
GOING OUT
WITH TODAY?

THEY
JUST
CAME TO
SEE HOW
I WAS
DOING.

SHE'D NEVER
BELIEVE ME IF
I TOLD HER
THE TRUTH.

UM,

THEY LIVE
IN MY OLD
NEIGHBOR-
HOOD.

A
CLASSMATE,
YAYOI
TAKATO.

SHE'S
BEEN MY
FRIEND SINCE
JUNIOR
HIGH.

I DEFINITELY
CAN'T TELL
HER THE
TRUTH.

YES,
MA'AM.

AND THE
PEOPLE
YOU
ASSOCIATE
WITH.

HIMENO, NOW
THAT YOU'RE A
MEMBER OF THIS
FAMILY, YOU
NEED TO BE
MORE CAREFUL
ABOUT WHAT
YOU DO,

OK!
I'LL BE
THERE!

A
FAMILY?

I'VE MADE
DINNER
RESERVATIONS.
I THOUGHT IT'D
BE NICE IF WE
ALL ATE
TOGETHER, AS
A FAMILY.

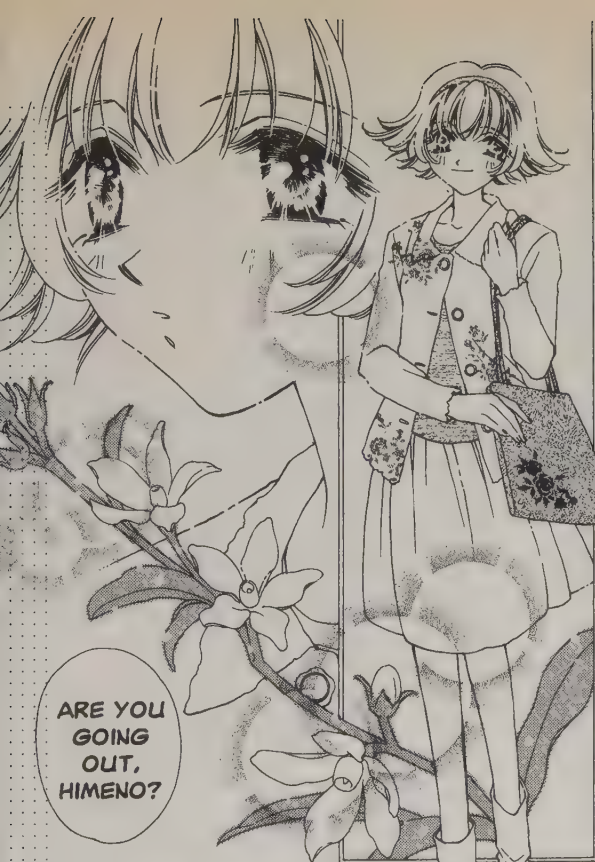
SEEING AS
HOW IT'S
SUNDAY AND
WE ALL HAVE
FREE TIME,

VERY
WELL.

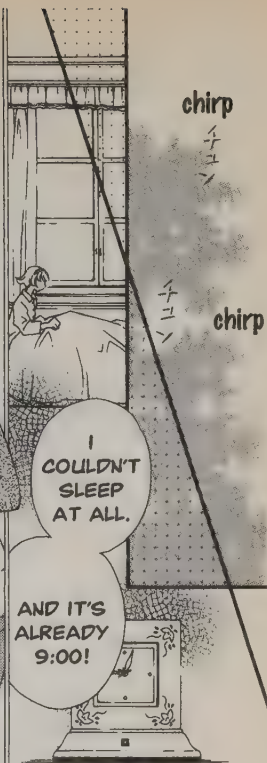
BUT
PLEASE
BE HOME
BY 5:00.

I WONDER IF
SHE'S REALLY
GOING TO MEET
YAYOI...

HUH?



ARE YOU
GOING
OUT,
HIMENO?



chirp
イチユン

イチユン

chirp

I
COULDN'T
SLEEP
AT ALL.

AND IT'S
ALREADY
9:00!



HOW
DO YOU
KNOW
THEM?

MAYUNE WELL.
TOLD ME YOU
HAD SOME
VISITORS
YESTERDAY.

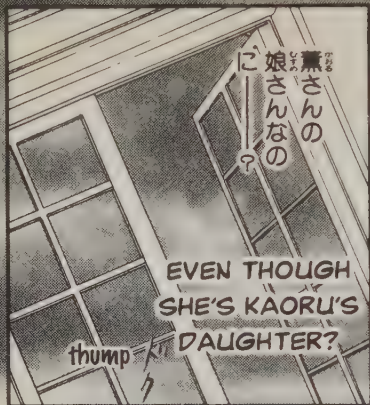
YES.

I'M GOING
SHOPPING
WITH MY
FRIEND.

OH...

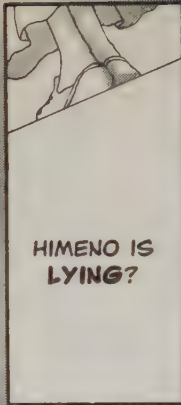
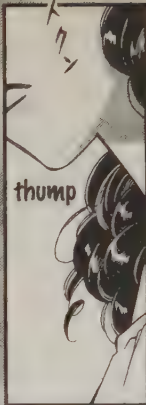
NATSUE...



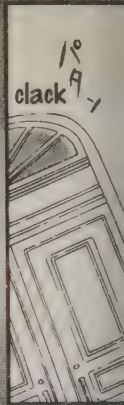


薫さんの
娘さんの
に

EVEN THOUGH
SHE'S KAORU'S
DAUGHTER?



HIMENO IS
LYING?

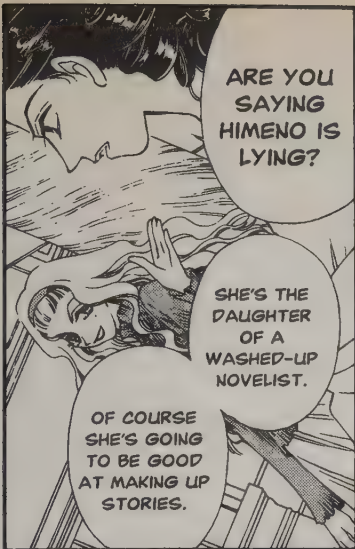


THIS WEATHER
DOESN'T LOOK
TOO GOOD.

AND JUST WHEN
I FINALLY GET
SOME FREE TIME!

IT SURE IS
COLD...

I WONDER IF
WE SHOULD'VE
PICKED A
BETTER PLACE
TO MEET.
SOMEWHERE
WITH A ROOF.

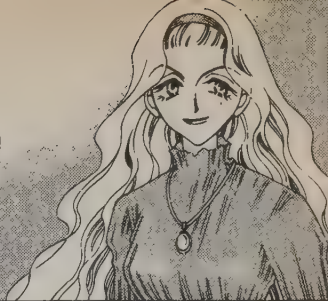


ARE YOU SAYING HIMENO IS LYING?

SHE'S THE DAUGHTER OF A WASHED-UP NOVELIST.

OF COURSE SHE'S GOING TO BE GOOD AT MAKING UP STORIES.

MAYUNE.



WELL, YESTERDAY, SHE DIDN'T EVEN GET TO SCHOOL UNTIL AFTER NOON.

I WONDER WHAT SHE'S DOING TODAY?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?



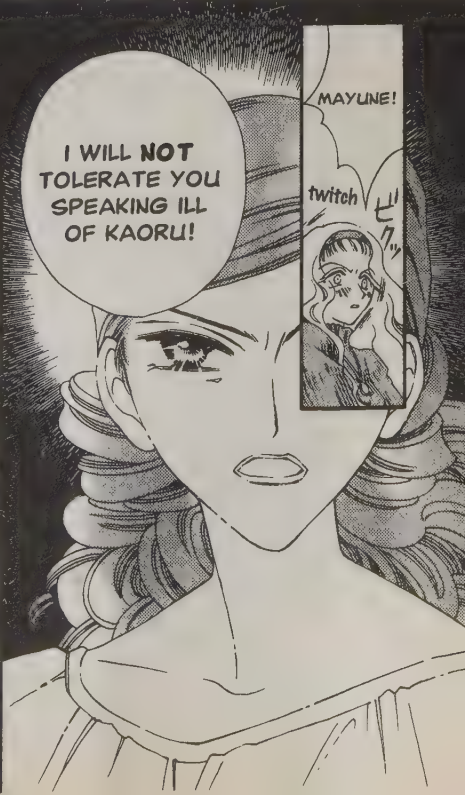
YOU HAVE DANCE LESSONS TODAY, CORRECT?

IF YOU DON'T LEAVE SOON, YOU WON'T MAKE IT IN TIME.

MA'AM.

LET'S GO, TANAKA.

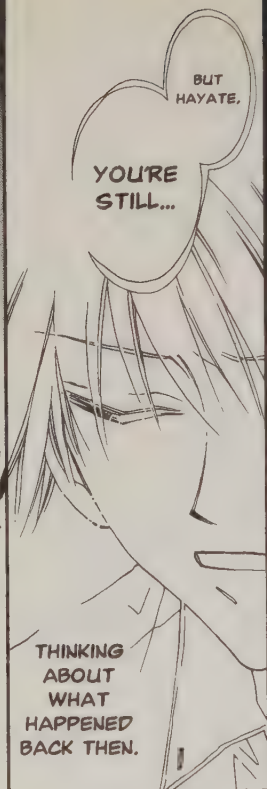
YES, MISS.



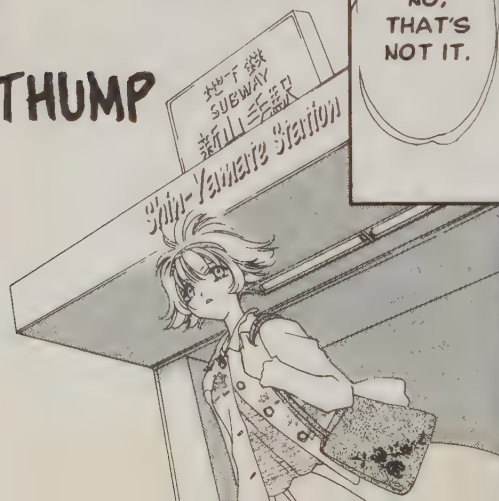
I WILL NOT TOLERATE YOU SPEAKING ILL OF KAORU!

MAYUNE!

twitch



THUMP



THUMP

IF WE ONLY
HAD THE
PRÉTEAR...

Thump

YOU
WANT
SOME
COFFEE
TOO,
KEI?

I DON'T
FEEL
TOO
GOOD.

IT'S
GETTING
HARDER
TO
BREATHE.

THE
LEAFE IS
BEING
STOLEN.

slither

thump

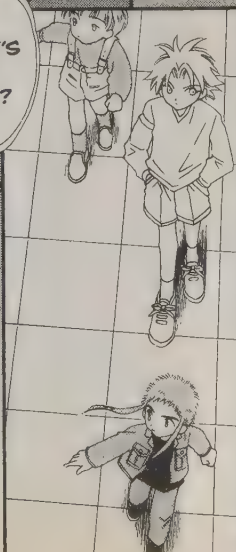
NO,
THAT'S
ALRIGHT.

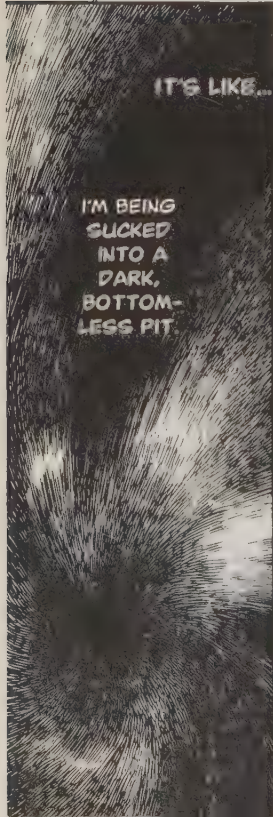
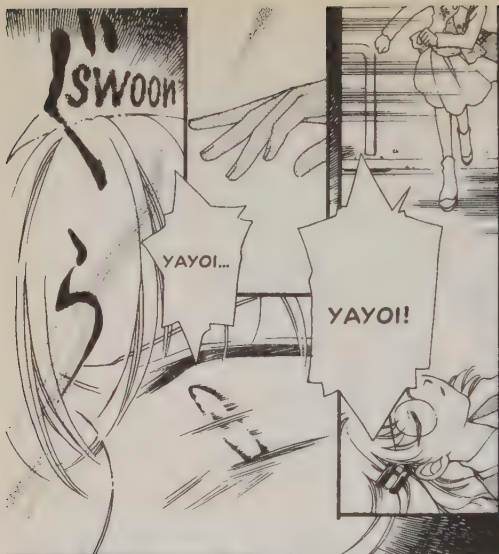
WHERE'S
THE
SEED?

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN,
IF?

I DON'T
KNOW.

Slither

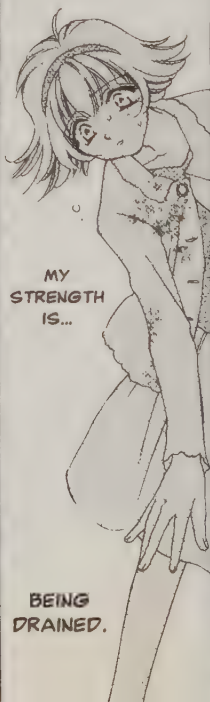




IT'S LIKE...

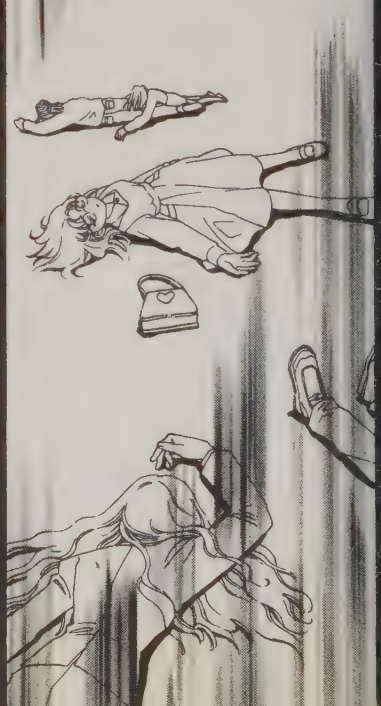
I'M BEING
SUCKED
INTO A
DARK,
BOTTOM-
LESS PIT.

WHAT'S
GOING ON?

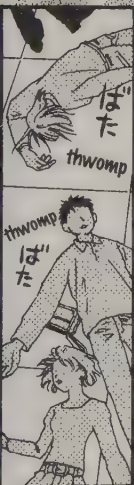


MY
STRENGTH
IS...

BEING
DRAINED.



THUMP



HIMENO.

SO
WARM...

HIMENO.

あたし知ってる

I KNOW THIS
FEELING.

この感覚
かんかく

THE
BLUENESS OF
HIS EYES.

瞳の青
ひとみの あお

THE BLUE OF
THE SKIES
ABOVE....

高い高い
たか たか
空の青
そらの あお

HIMENO.

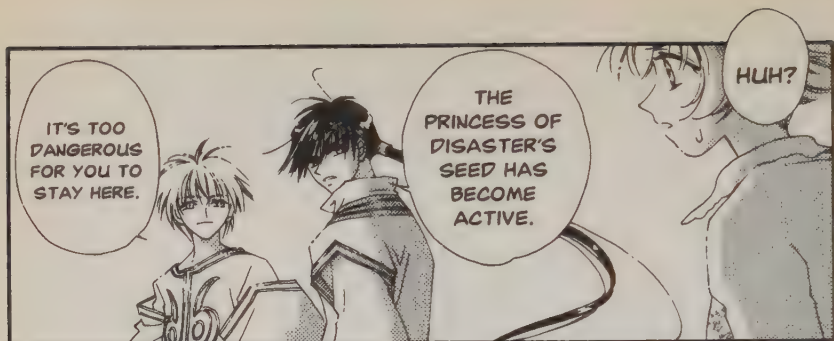
HIMENO.

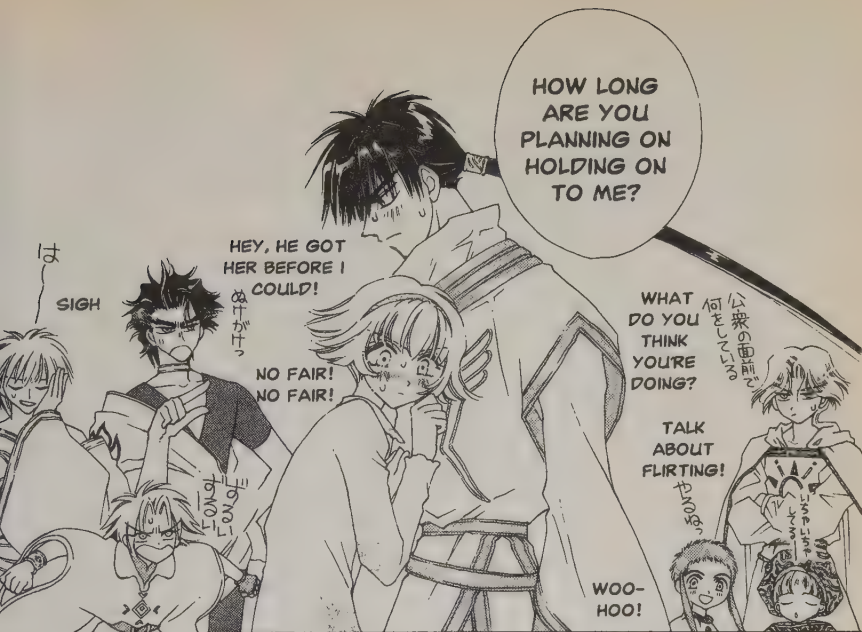
姫乃
ひめの の

HEY!



WIND...





HOW LONG
ARE YOU
PLANNING ON
HOLDING ON
TO ME?

は
SIGH

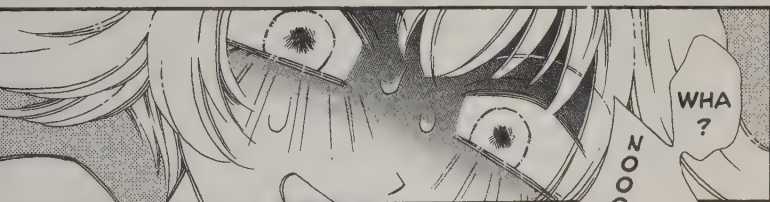
HEY, HE GOT
HER BEFORE I
COULD!

NO FAIR!
NO FAIR!

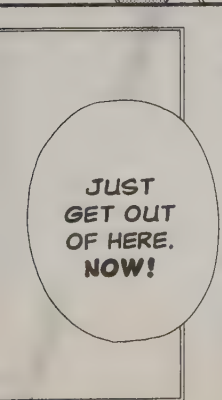
WHAT
DO YOU
THINK
YOU'RE
DOING?

TALK
ABOUT
FLIRTING!

WOO-
HOO!



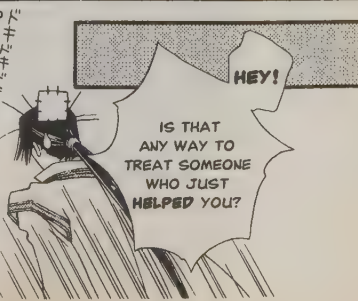
WHA
?



LOOK,
TOOTS.




BUT
...



HEY!

IS THAT
ANY WAY TO
TREAT SOMEONE
WHO JUST
HELPED YOU?




PLEASE,
TELL ME!

WAIT!

T
H
U
M
P

WHAT CAN
I DO?!



I'M
SCARED.

THEY
WANT
ME

TO RUN
AWAY...

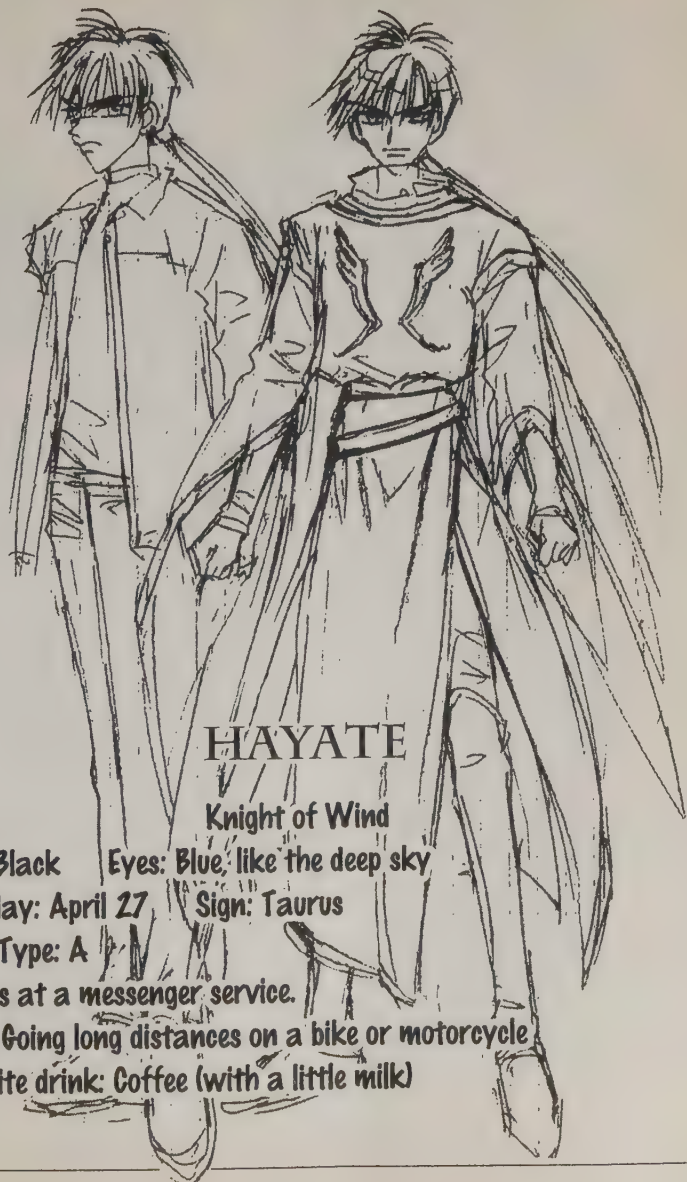
I'M
SCARED,
BUT I ...

WHILE THEY
STAY AND
FIGHT?



CHAPTER 3

H A Y A T E



HAYATE

Knight of Wind

Hair: Black Eyes: Blue, like the deep sky


Birthday: April 27 Sign: Taurus

Blood Type: A

Works at a messenger service.



Likes: Going long distances on a bike or motorcycle

Favorite drink: Coffee (with a little milk)

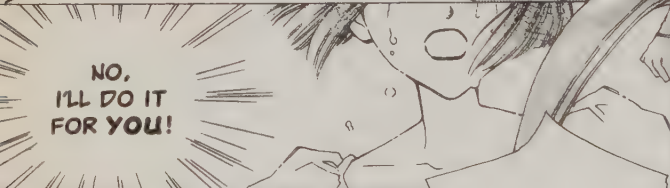


YOU WANNA HELP,
NOW THAT YOUR
FRIEND IS IN
TROUBLE, BUT THIS
ISN'T JUST ABOUT
YOU AND YOUR
FRIEND.


HAYATE.




NO,
I'LL DO IT
FOR YOU!



HOW COULD WE
LET SOMEONE
SO NAÏVE BE
THE PRÉTEAR?!



YOU HAVEN'T
UNDERSTOOD
A THING!



I THOUGHT SO.
HAYATE IS STILL
THINKING...

ABOUT WHAT
HAPPENED BACK THEN.



THANK
GOOD-
NESS.


HIMENO,
ARE YOU
GOING TO
BECOME THE
PRÉTEAR?

I'LL DO
ANYTHING!

BUT IF I
DON'T DO
IT SOON,
YAYOI WILL
DIE!

YOU JUST
WANT TO
SAVE YOUR
FRIEND?

WHAT CAN
I DO?!



THEN I WANT TO
BECOME THE
PRÉTEAR!

WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH DOING
SOMETHING
FOR A
FRIEND?!

I'M JUST
A HIGH
SCHOOL
GIRL! I'VE
LIVED A
NORMAL
LIFE!

I DON'T
UNDERSTAND
WHEN YOU TALK
ABOUT SOME
"PRINCESS OF
DISASTER"...

BUT MY
FRIEND IS
DYING
RIGHT IN
FRONT OF
ME!

AND IT'S NOT
JUST HER, IT'S
EVERYONE WHO
LIVES IN THIS
CITY, AND THE
TREES, AND THE
BIRDS...

BUT EVEN IF
THERE'S A
CHANCE...

I DON'T
KNOW IF
THERE'S
ANYTHING
PROBABLY I CAN DO.
NOT...

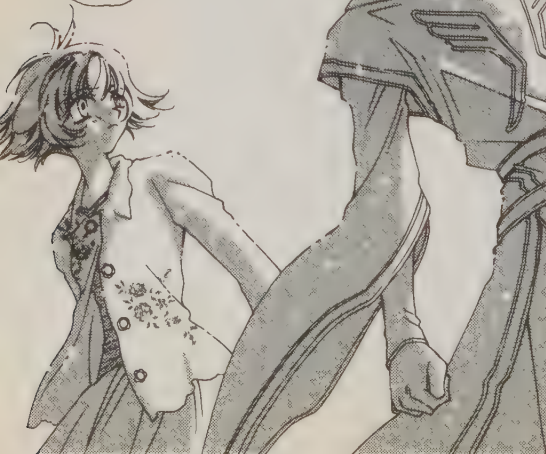
FINE.



groan

I'M GOING
TO FIND OUT
FOR MYSELF
IF SHE HAS
WHAT IT
TAKES

TO
BE THE
PRÉTEAR.



FIRST,
SASAME
WILL
SEARCH
USING
SOUND.



NO. I'LL
DO IT.



COME ON,
SPEAK UP!
BE A MAN
AND STOP
DAWDLING!

BUT...

dawdling

YOU NEED
ME, RIGHT?

YOU
LOSE,
HAYATE.

IT'S
TOO
RISKY!

IT'S A
LOT BETTER
THAN TRYING
TO FIGHT
WITHOUT THE
PRÉTEAR.

NOW THAT
SHE'S READY
TO DO THIS,
YOU COULD AT
LEAST HELP
HER OUT.

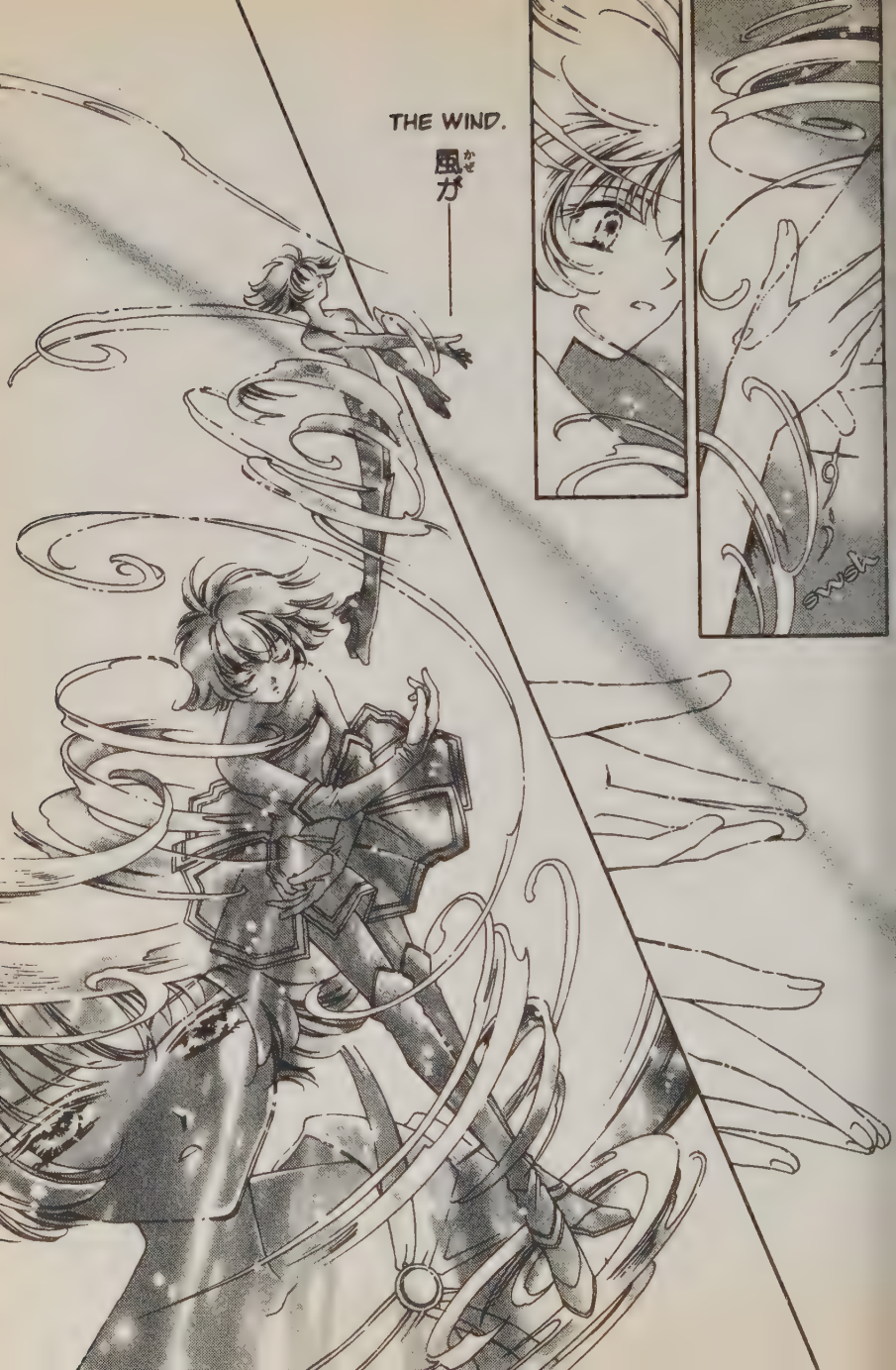
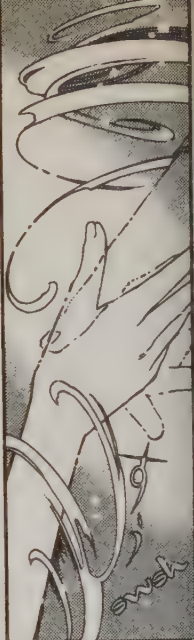
AGREED!

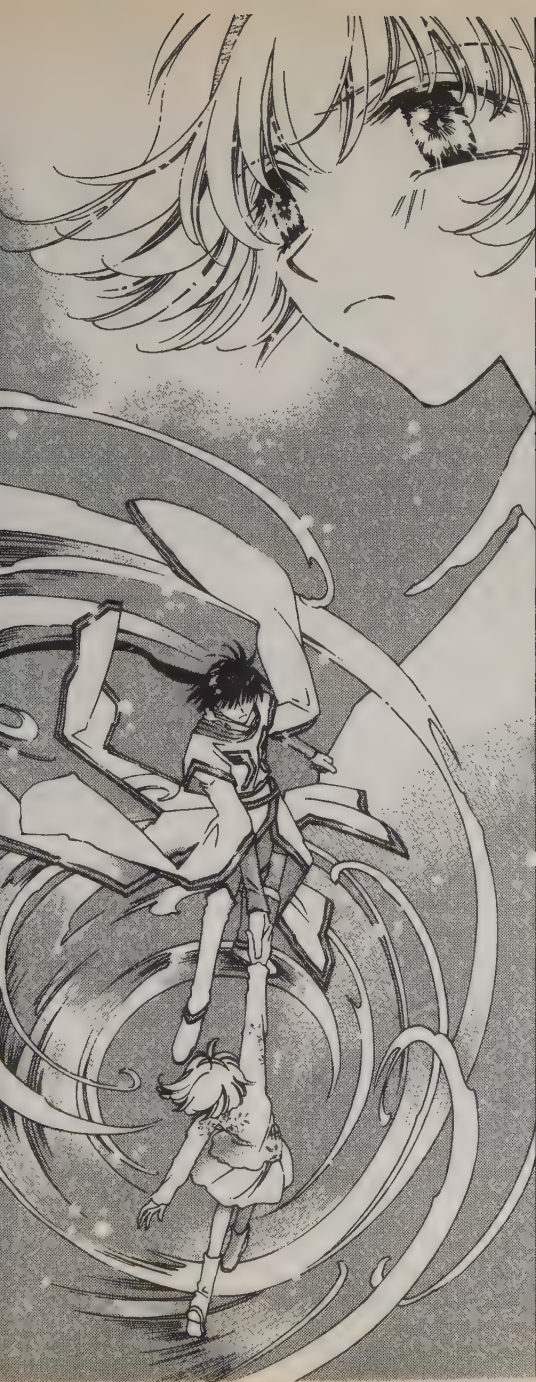
pat
ぽん

L...LOSE?

THE WIND.

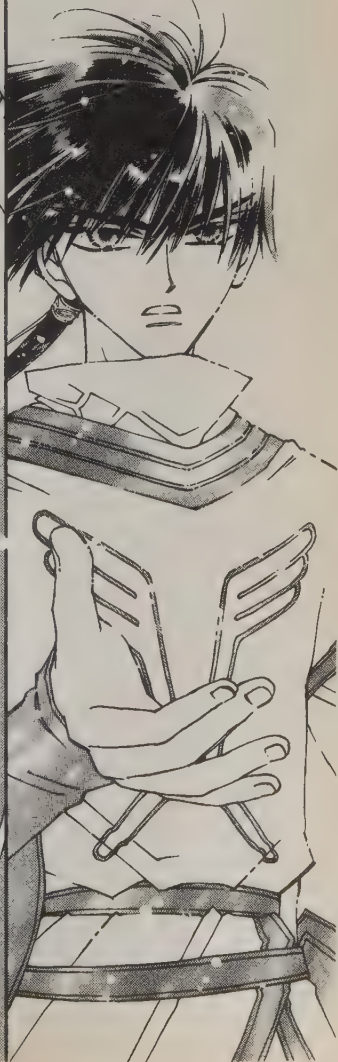
かぜ
風が





HIMENO,

GIVE
ME
YOUR
HAND.



YOU CAN CONTROL THE
WIND. AND CREATE LEAFE
OF THE WIND.

風^{かぜ}
を操^{さと}り

風^{かぜ}のリーフエを
創^はり出^だす

IS THIS...
THE
PRÉTEAR?

CONTROL
WIND?

HAYATE?

YES.

THE PRÉTEAR
OF WIND.

YOU'RE
NOT
IMAGINING
THINGS.

AM I IMAGINING
THINGS, OR IS
YOUR VOICE
COMING FROM
INSIDE MY
HEAD?

HUH?

YES.
AND SHE
GAINS THE
POWER OF
THE LEAFE
KNIGHT SHE
MERGES
WITH.

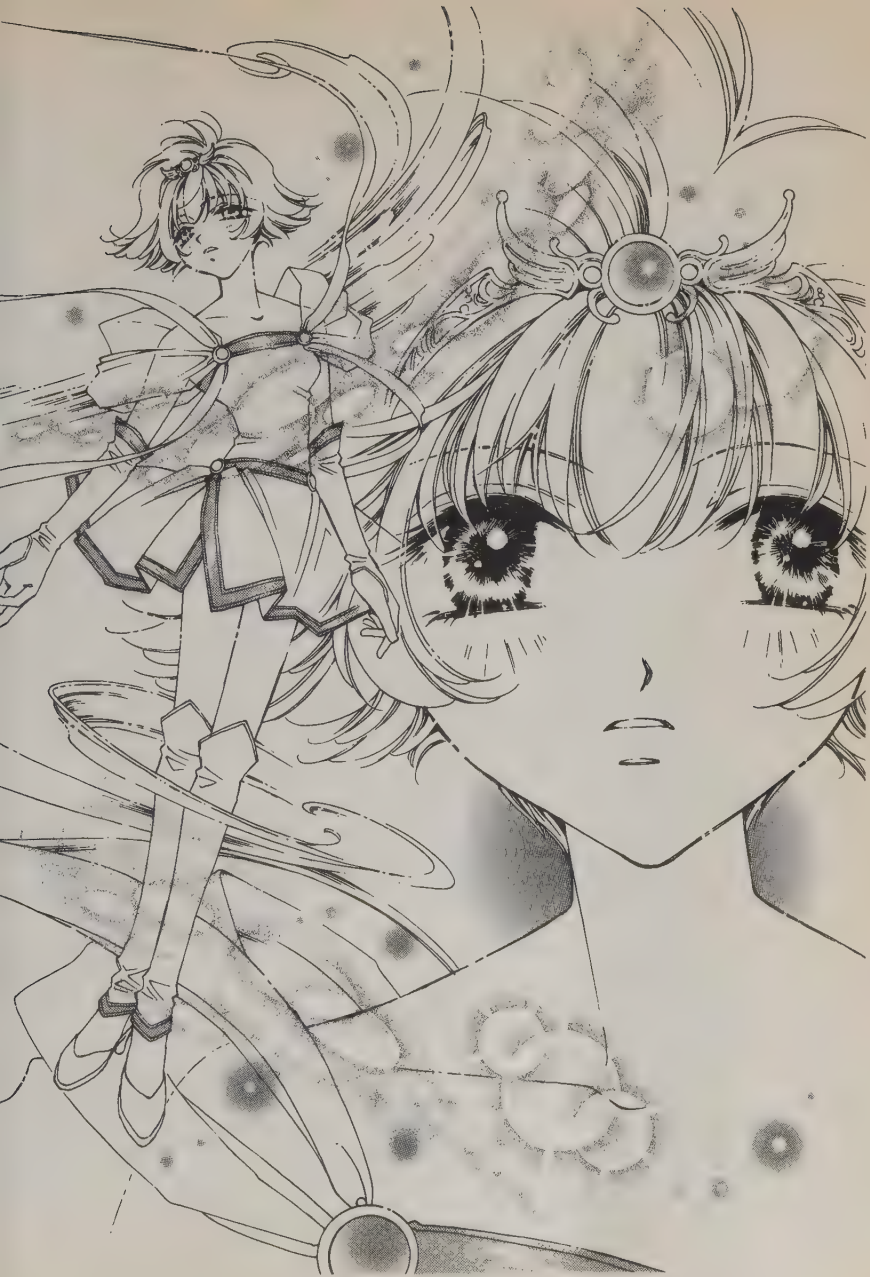
"MER-
GES?"

WHEN THE
PRÉTEAR
MERGES WITH A
LEAFE KNIGHT,
SHE CAN CREATE
LEAFE.

WELL,
THAT'S
NOT
QUITE
RIGHT,
BUT...
YEAH,
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT.

UH,
SO YOU'RE
TELLING ME
HAYATE IS
INSIDE MY
BODY?







IT'S SO...



IT CAME
FROM
OVER
THERE.

YEAH.

YOU
SLUM-
BAG!

HEY, I'M THE
ONE WHO
SHOULD BE
GROSSED
OUT!

goosebumps
とけだ、

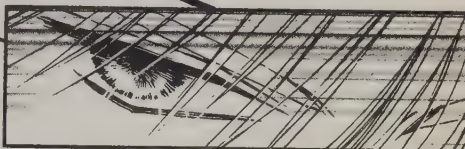
THAT'S
TOTALLY
GROSS!

えええええ

THERE'S
NO TIME
TO
COMPLAIN.

LOOK,

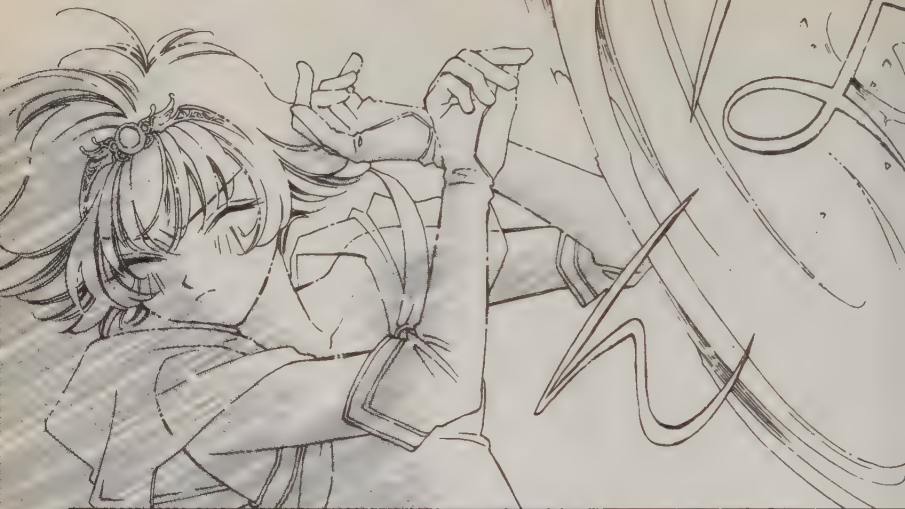
I FEEL SO
EMBARR-
ASSED...



WE HAVE
A VISITOR.

VWORRR

PWOOF



HAYATE?

YAUGH!

AAAUGH!

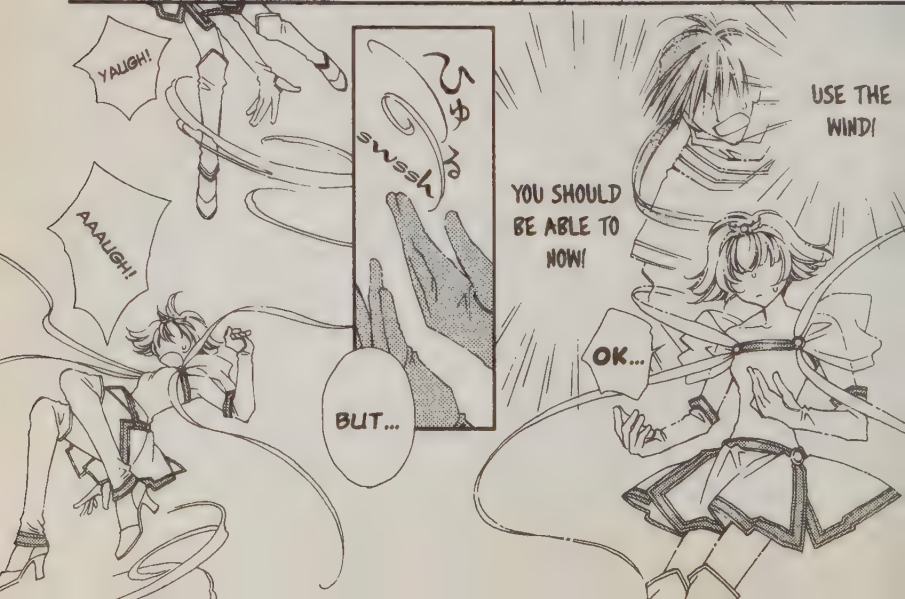
Swish
swish

BUT...

USE THE
WIND!

YOU SHOULD
BE ABLE TO
NOW!

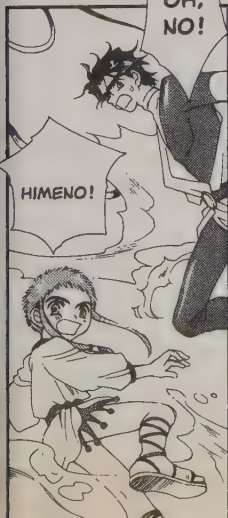
OK...





OH,
NO!

HIMENO!



IT'S LIKE...

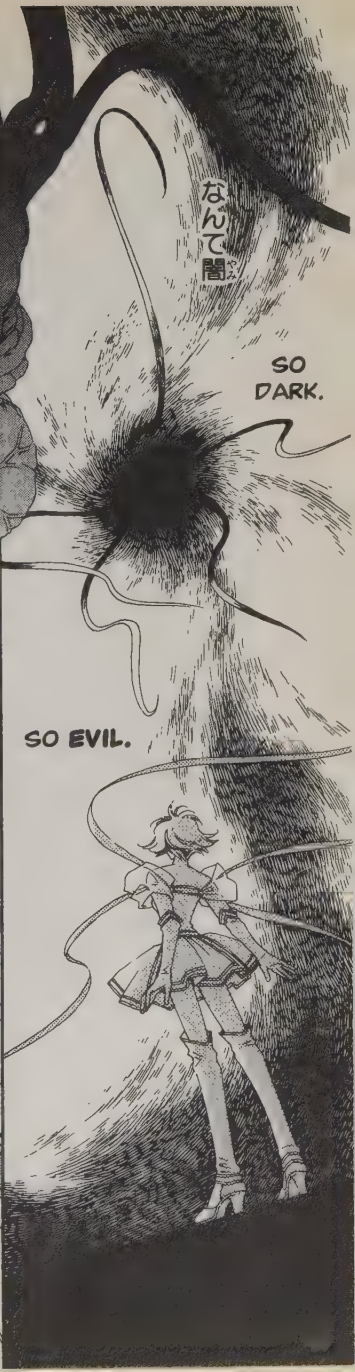


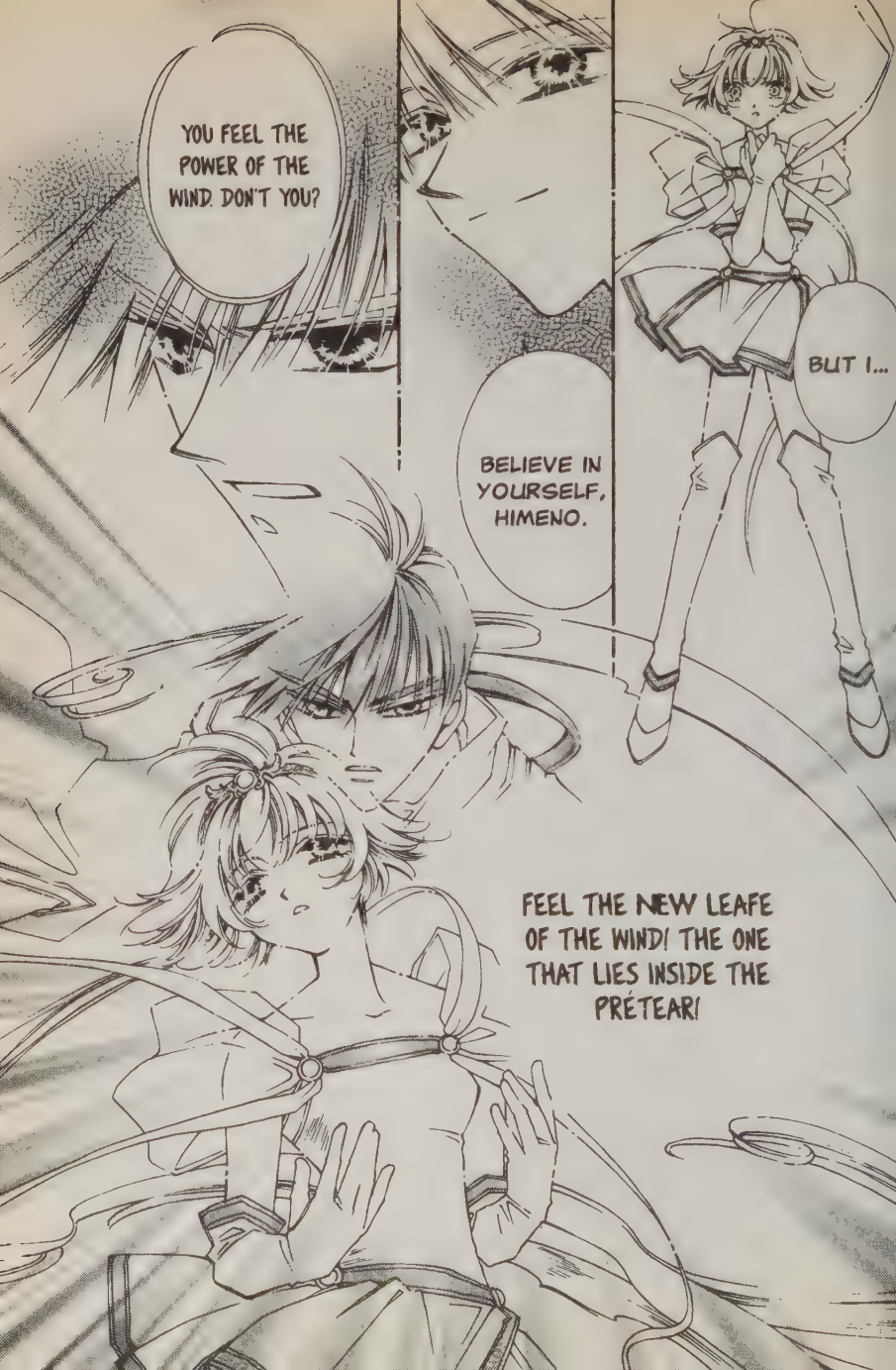
IT COULD
SWALLOW UP
EVERYTHING
THAT EXISTS.

なんて闇

SO
DARK.

SO EVIL.





YOU FEEL THE
POWER OF THE
WIND. DON'T YOU?

BELIEVE IN
YOURSELF,
HIMENO.

BUT I...

FEEL THE NEW LEAF
OF THE WIND! THE ONE
THAT LIES INSIDE THE
PRÉTEAR!

GIVE ME
A BREAK,
HERE!

YOU
SLICK!

wheeze wheeze

ALRIGHT!
WE'LL ALL
PROTECT
HIMENO!

WHY IS IT
ATTACKING
ONLY ME?

I CAN'T
CONCENTRATE.

SPAK

BUT...

WELL,
YOU
SEE...

HIMENO,
YOU
ATTACK
THE
SEED!

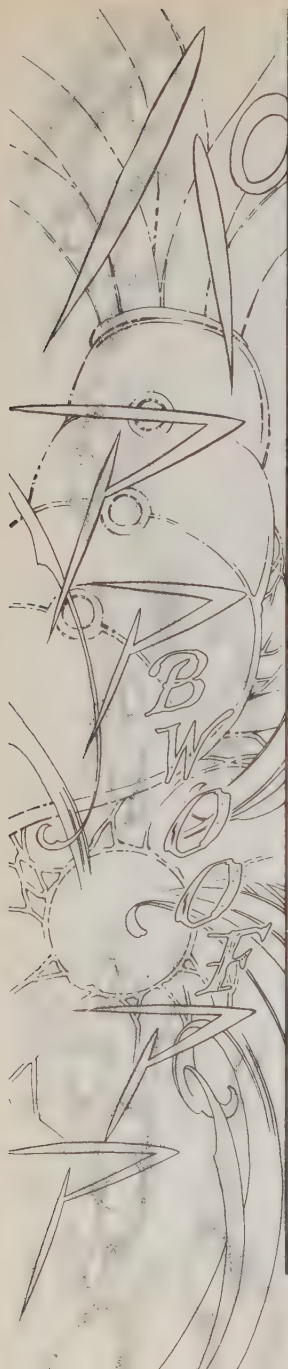
Gooing

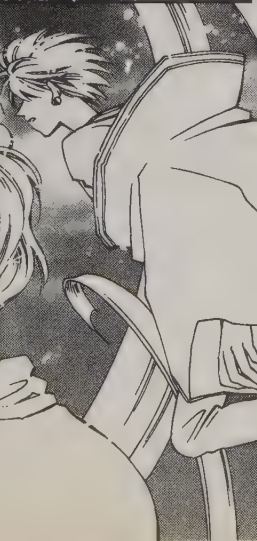
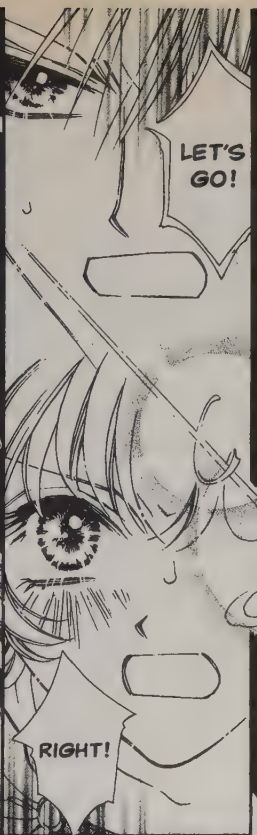
AND THE
PRÉTEAR
IS LIKE A
FOUNTAIN
OF LEAFE.

YOU'RE KIND OF
LIKE ITS FOOD.

THE
"SEED"
GATHERS
LEAFE,

YOU
DON'T SAY...





NICE
WORK,
HIMENO.

YOU
DID
IT!

HIMENO
REALLY
IS THE
PRÉTEAR!

AGREED!

THE LEAF IS
RETURNING!





I'M SURE
SHE'LL
GET
BETTER.

ONCE SHE
LEARNS TO
CONTROL
HER POWER,
SHE WON'T
WASTE IT
AS MUCH.

SHE'S
JUST NOT
USED TO IT
YET.



RIGHT,

HIMENO?



ba-dump



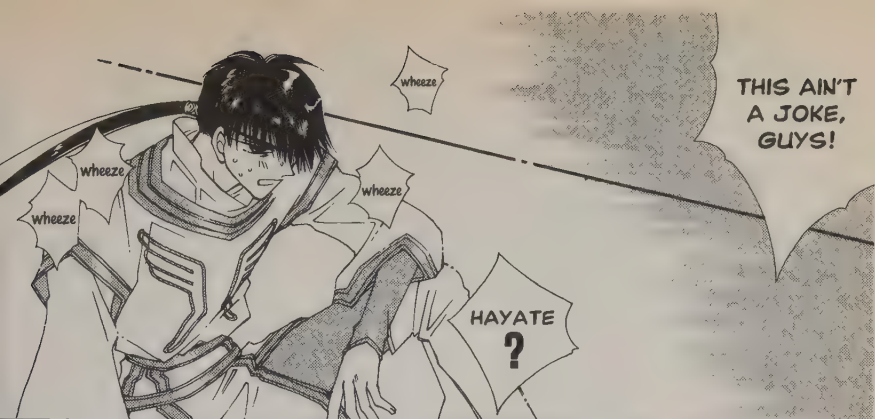
YAYOI!



HIMENO?

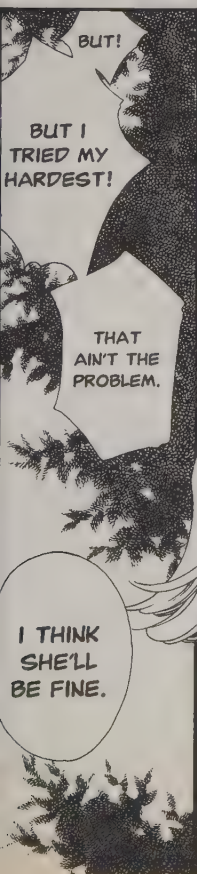


BUT
...



THIS AIN'T
A JOKE,
GUYS!

HAYATE
?

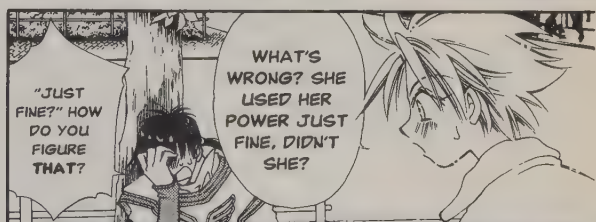


BUT!

BUT I
TRIED MY
HARDEST!

THAT
AIN'T THE
PROBLEM.

I THINK
SHE'LL
BE FINE.



"JUST
FINE?" HOW
DO YOU
FIGURE
THAT?

WHAT'S
WRONG? SHE
USED HER
POWER JUST
FINE, DIDN'T
SHE?

THE WAY SHE
USED HER
POWER WAS A
MESS! THANK
GOODNESS IT
WAS ME.

IF IT'D
BEEN
HAJIME
OR SHIN...

SHE ISN'T FIT
TO BE THE
PRÉTEAR.

Stop laughing, Sasame!



I KNEW SHE
WAS GOING
TO SEE
THEM.

姫乃

Don't get
so angry!

さんな
おさんな
くったって

LOOK,
HIMENO.

WE NEED
YOU.

PLEASE
HELP US.





WE NEED THE
PRÉTEAR.

PLEASE,
HIMENO.

HIMENO!

YOU'LL
DO IT
FOR US,
RIGHT?

WERE
COUNTING
ON YOU.

RIGHT!

BUT
CAN I
REALLY
DO IT?

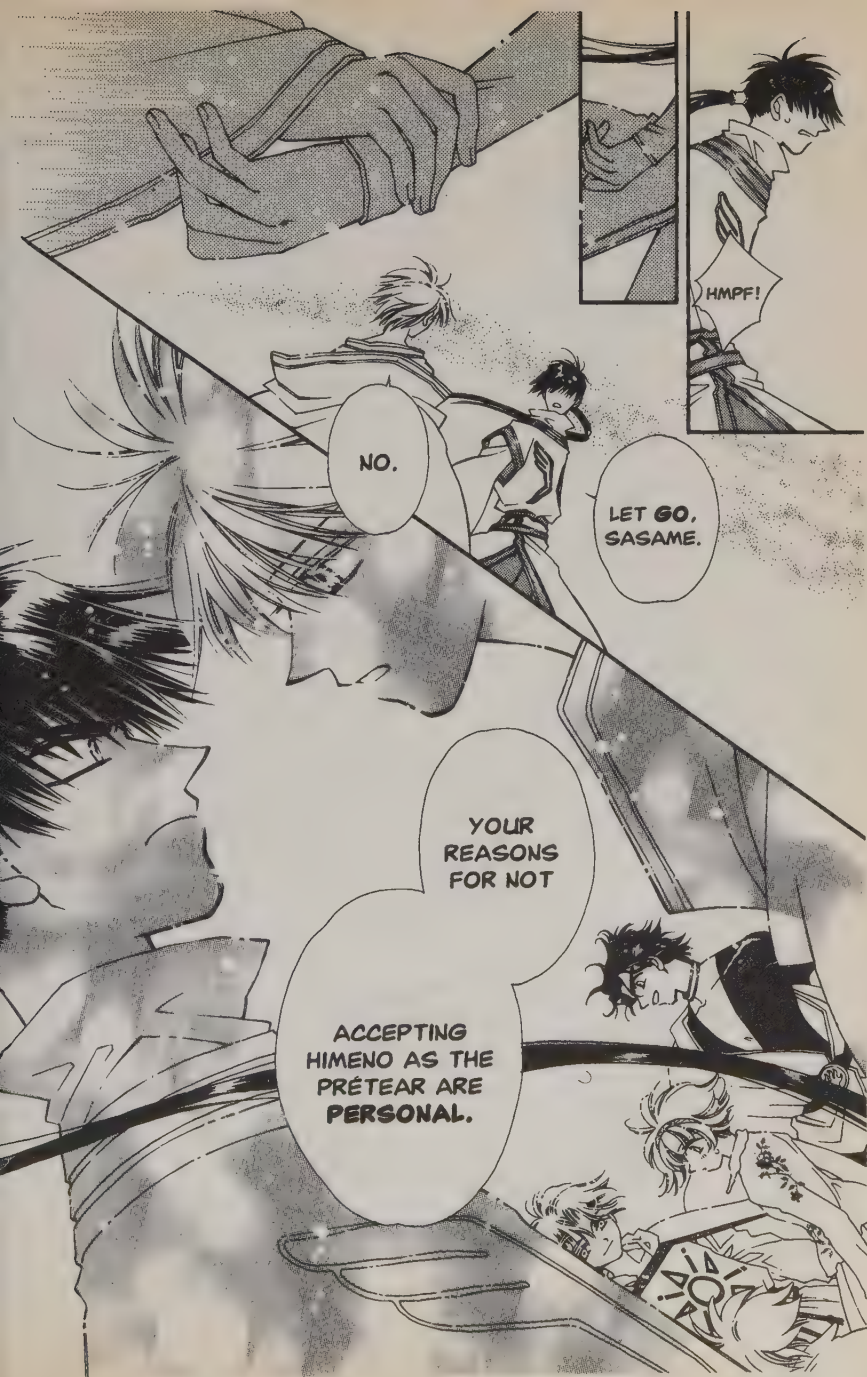
RIGHT
NOW,


SHE IS
THE
PRÉTEAR.

WE'LL
HELP YOU
AS MUCH
AS WE
CAN.

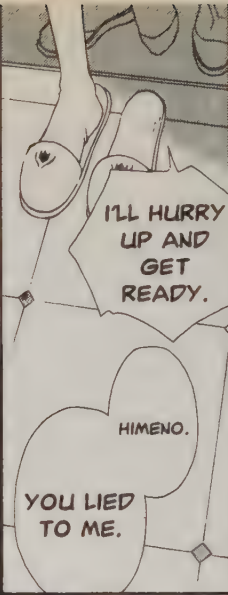
THEY'RE
COUNTING
ON

ME...





MAYUNE SAYS
THAT YOU
MET WITH
THOSE BOYS.



I'LL HURRY
UP AND
GET
READY.

HIMENO.

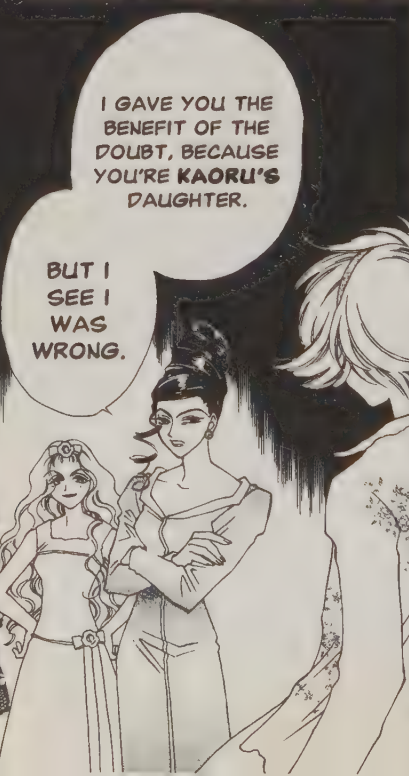
YOU LIED
TO ME.



UM...

I'M SORRY,
AM I
LATE OR
SOMETHING?

NO.
YOU'RE
RIGHT
ON
TIME.



I GAVE YOU THE
BENEFIT OF THE
DOUBT, BECAUSE
YOU'RE KAORU'S
DAUGHTER.

BUT I
SEE I
WAS
WRONG.




YES, I
MET
THEM,

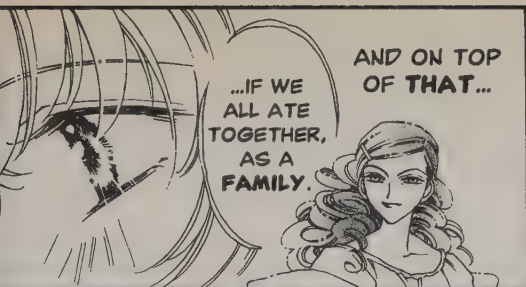
BUT IT
WAS JUST
A COINCIDENCE.



OH...

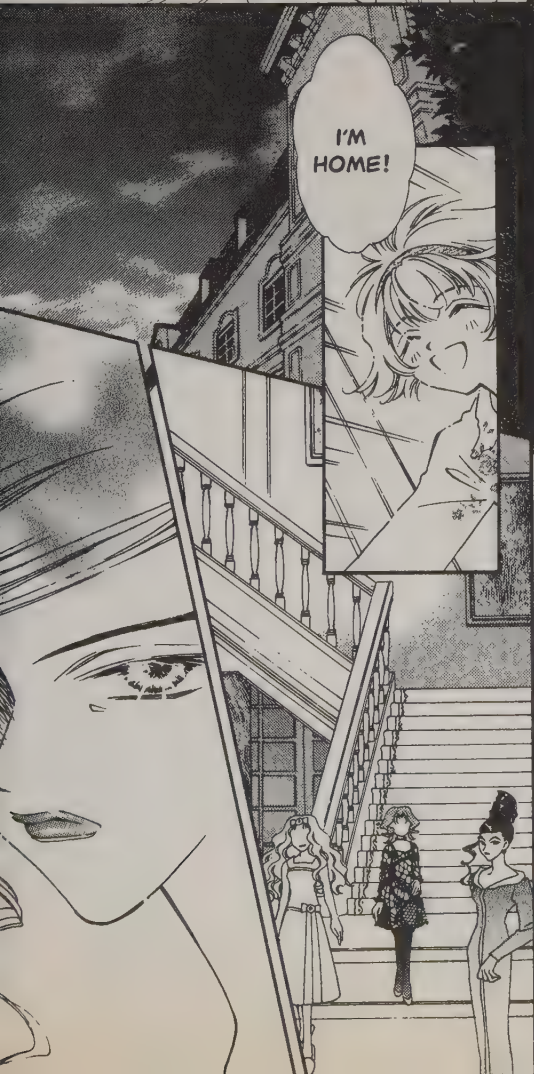


I DO NOT
WANT TO
HEAR ANY
EXCUSES!

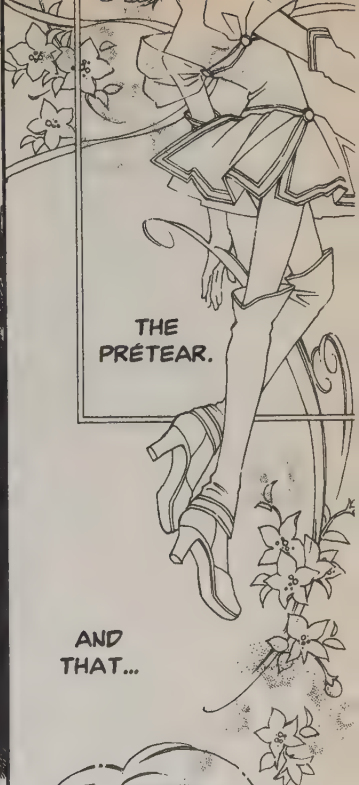


...IF WE
ALL ATE
TOGETHER,
AS A
FAMILY.

AND ON TOP
OF THAT...



I'M
HOME!



THE
PRÉTEAR.

AND
THAT...

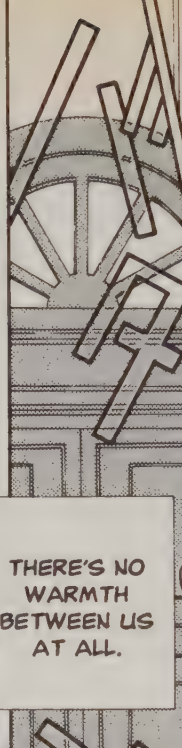


MAKES ME
HAPPY
SOMEHOW.




"HAVE
A NICE
TIME,"

HUH?




THERE'S NO
WARMTH
BETWEEN US
AT ALL.



NO. SHE'S
TIRED FROM
BEING OUT
ALL DAY.

YEAH.



I HAVE
HOMEWORK
TO DO,
ANYWAY.

I
WON'T
...

I WILL NOT
GIVE UP!

HAVE A
NICE TIME.

SORRY TO
KEEP YOU
WAITING!

IT TOOK ME
A WHILE TO
TIE THIS.

ナメクツな
年頃だ

WELL
THEN,
SHALL
WE GO?

NO!

I WANTED US
TO GO OUT TO
DINNER AS A
FAMILY,

BUT I
SIMPLY
CANNOT BE
SEEN OUT IN
PUBLIC WITH
SOMEONE
LIKE YOU.

I...

I LIVE IN A
HOUSE AS
BIG AS A
CASTLE.

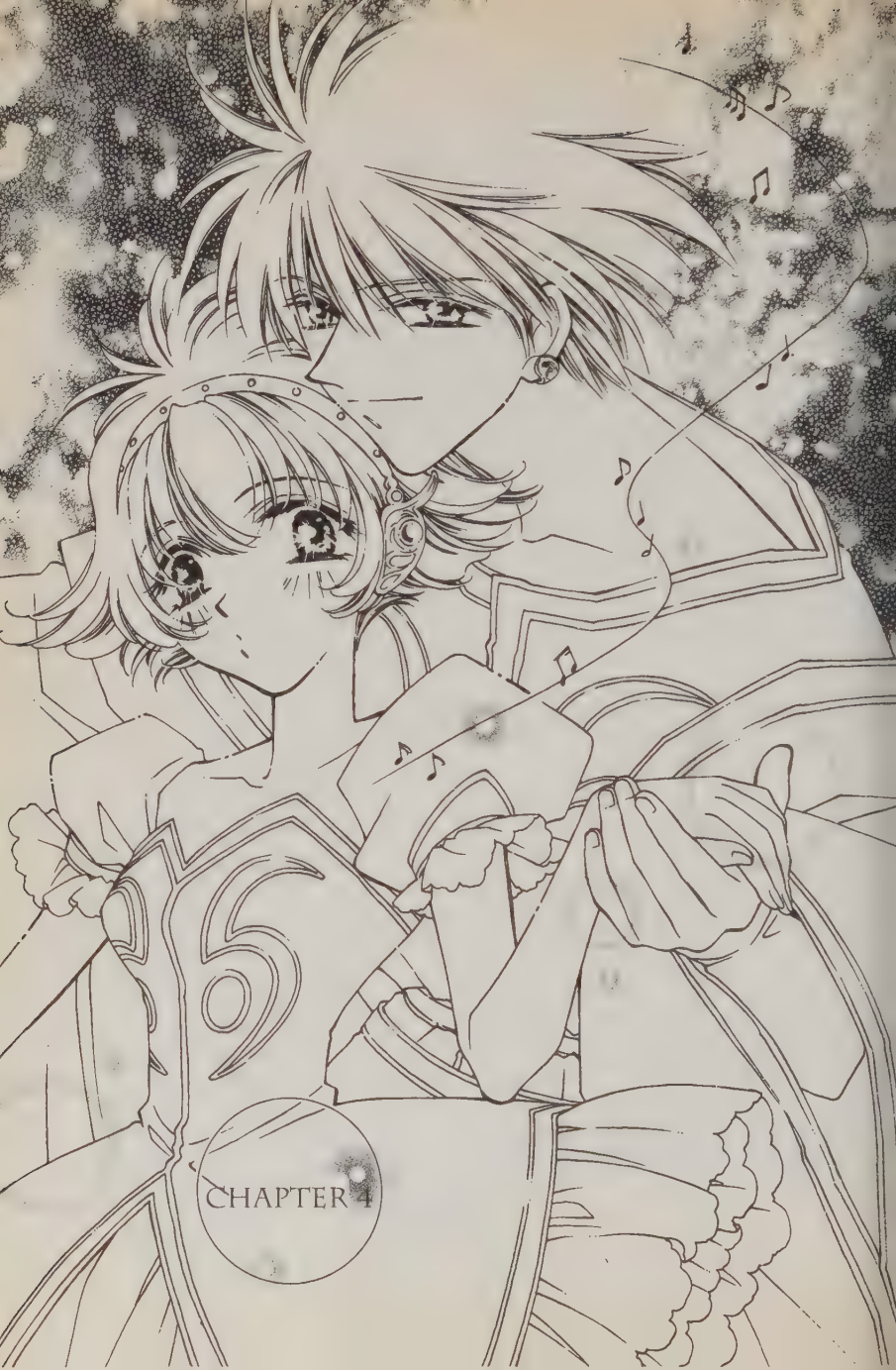
I HAVE A
NEW
FAMILY...

HUH?

HIMENO,
AREN'T
YOU
COMING?

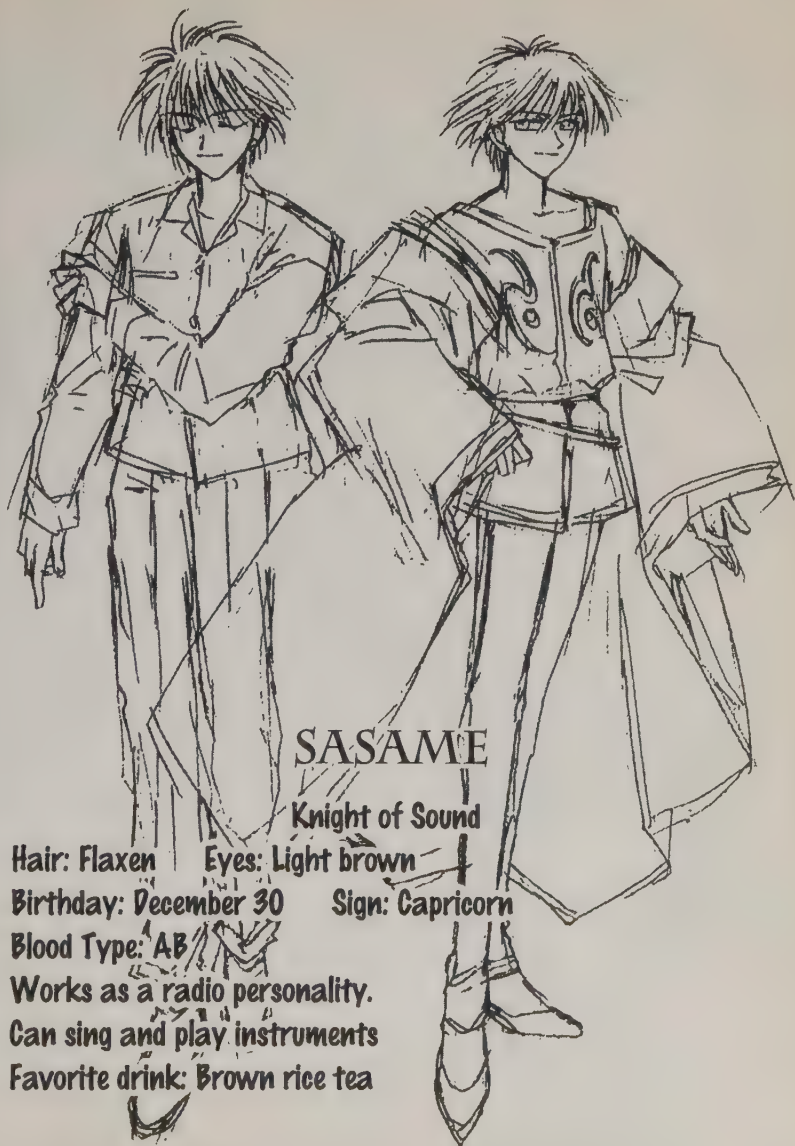
BUT...





CHAPTER 4

S A S A M E



SASAME

Knight of Sound

Hair: Flaxen Eyes: Light brown

Birthday: December 30 Sign: Capricorn

Blood Type: AB

Works as a radio personality.

Can sing and play instruments

Favorite drink: Brown rice tea




AND,
A NEW
LEAF OF
SOUND...

BORN
FROM
WITHIN
YOU, THE
PRÉTEAR.

YEAH,
GOOD
JOB.

んっ
chu

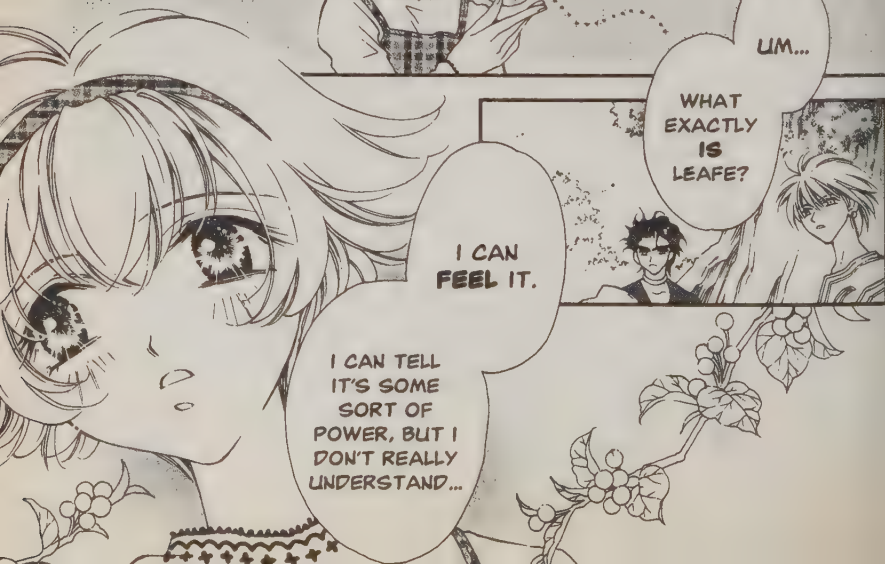
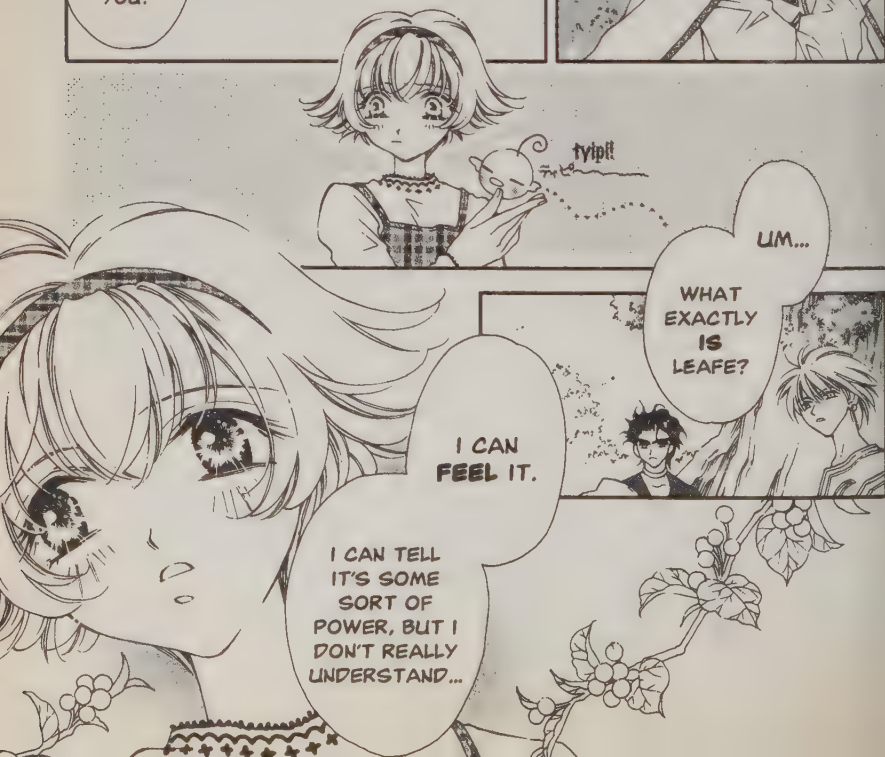
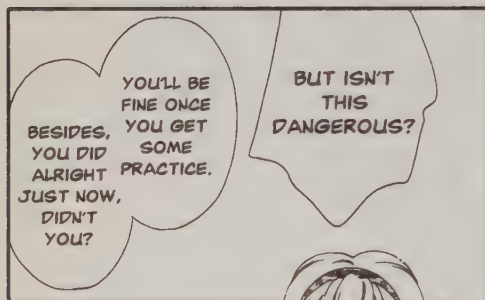
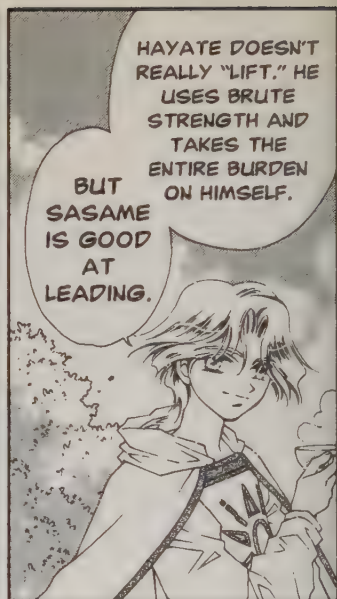
THAT
WAS
GREAT,
HIMENO.



THE
VOICES OF
THE PLANTS
AND
ANIMALS.

OPEN
YOUR
HEART.

SLOWLY...
YOU SHOULD
BE ABLE TO
HEAR THE
SOUNDS
CARRIED BY
THE WIND
AND WATER.



WELL, I
GUESS YOU
COULD SAY
IT'S LIKE A
BALLET DUET.

BUT
SASAME,

WHY
WAS IT SO
DIFFERENT
WITH YOU...


THAN IT
WAS
WITH
HAYATE?

IF BOTH
PARTNERS
HAVE PROPER
TECHNIQUE AND
THEIR TIMING
IS RIGHT,

THE MAN CAN
LIFT HIS
PARTNER
EASILY.

OH
NO.

BUT, IF THEY
LOSE THEIR
BALANCE...



AND EACH
TIME, THE
LEAFE KNIGHTS
FOUGHT HER
WITH THE HELP
OF PREVIOUS
GENERATIONS
OF THE
PRÉTEAR.

EACH TIME,
SHE USED
THE
SEEDS TO
TRY TO
STEAL THE
LEAFE...


THROUGHOUT
HISTORY, THE
PRINCESS OF
DISASTER HAS
APPEARED
MANY TIMES.

HE REALLY
DOESN'T KNOW
HOW TO DEAL
WITH GIRLS.

GENER-
ATIONS?

WHAT KINDS
OF GIRLS HAVE
BEEN THE
PRÉTEAR
BEFORE ME?

ひち
Plehu



THE
WORLD OF
LEAFEANIA IS
INSEPARABLY
LINKED TO
THE REAL
WORLD.

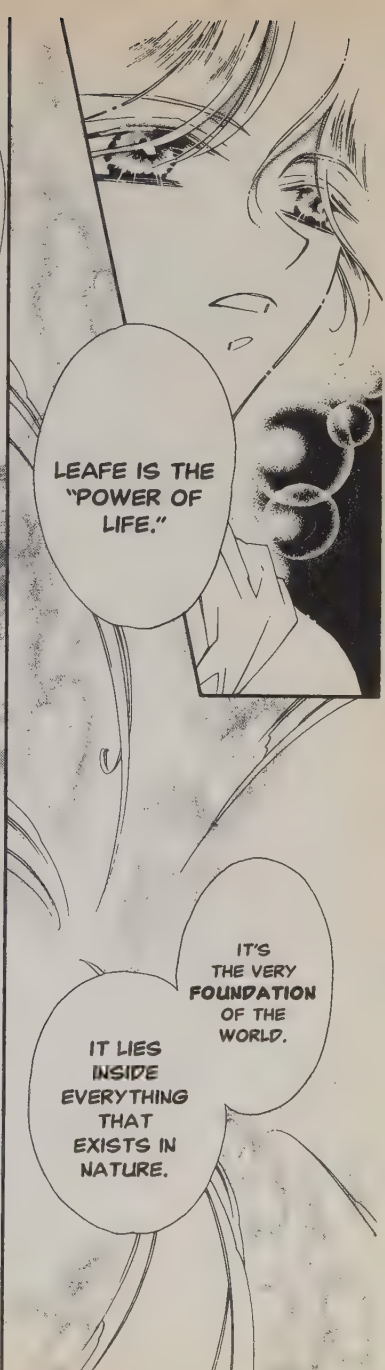
LEAFE
CIRCULATES
BETWEEN
LEAFEANIA AND
THE REAL
WORLD, LIKE A
WHEEL OF LIFE.

TRYING TO
GET VALLEY
GIRL HERE TO
UNDERSTAND
IS A WASTE
OF TIME.



DO YOU
UNDER-
STAND?

SO YOU'RE
SAYING
LEAFE IS
REALLY
IMPORTANT,
RIGHT?



LEAFE IS THE
"POWER OF
LIFE."

IT'S
THE VERY
FOUNDATION
OF THE
WORLD.

IT LIES
INSIDE
EVERYTHING
THAT
EXISTS IN
NATURE.

pat
ぽん



BUT I
HAVE MY
REASONS.

WHAT?
BUT YOU'RE
RICH,
RIGHT?

DON'T YOU
GET SOME
HUGE
ALLOWANCE?

I
GUESS...



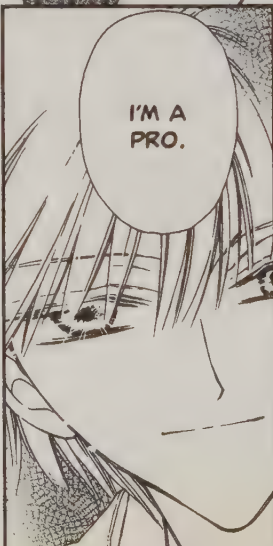
A
PRO?

SASAME IS
A RADIO
PERSONALITY.

他外相談
しなさん
HE HAS HIS
OWN TALK
SHOW AND
STUFF.



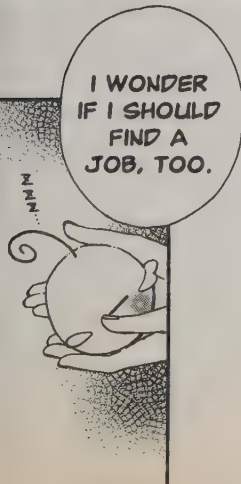
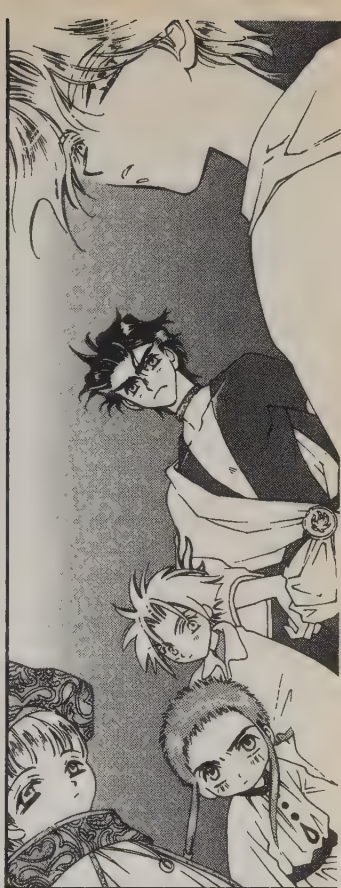
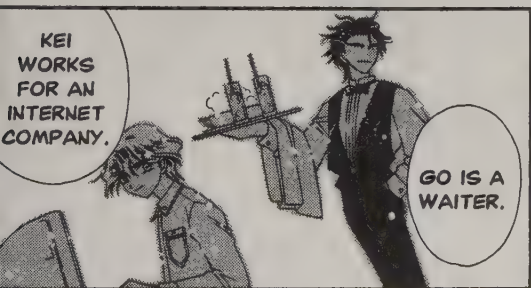
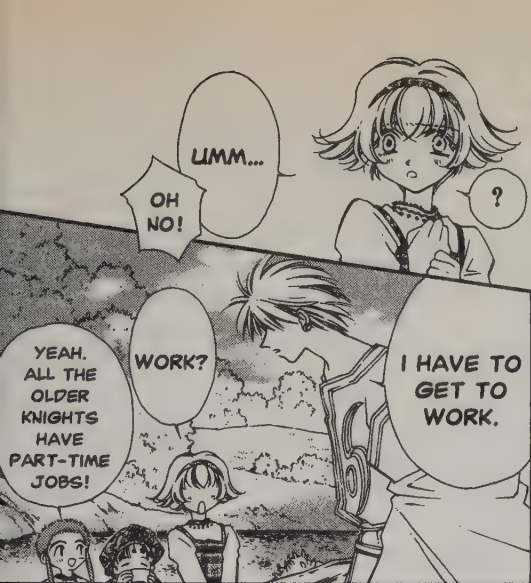
I'M A
PRO.



SAS-
AME.

IF YOU
HAVE ANY
PROBLEMS,
YOU CAN
TALK TO
ME.





THE
WATER?

ABOUT
A WEEK AGO,
IT STARTED
SMELLING
ROTTEN. AND
IT'S GETTING
WORSE.

OUT OF ALL
OF YOUR
BOOKS,
KAORU, "TWIN
PRINCESS"
WAS MY
FAVORITE.

SO I ALWAYS
KNEW THAT IF
I HAD
DAUGHTERS,
I'D NAME THEM
AFTER THE
TWO MAIN
CHARACTERS.

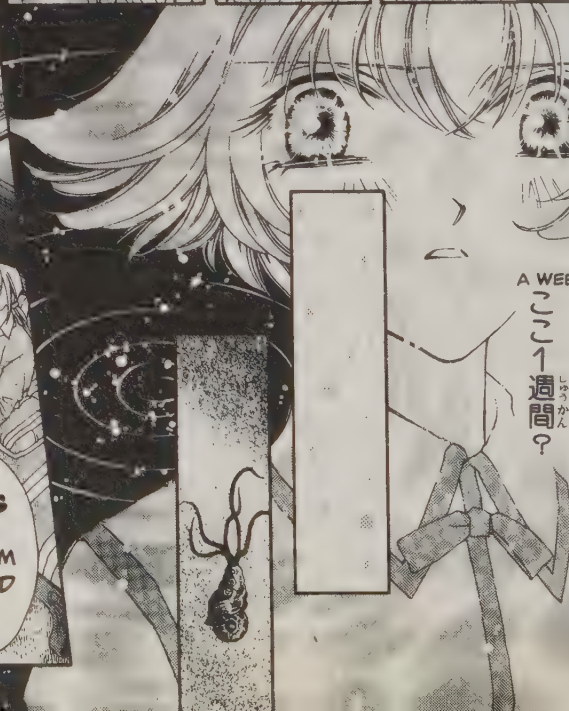
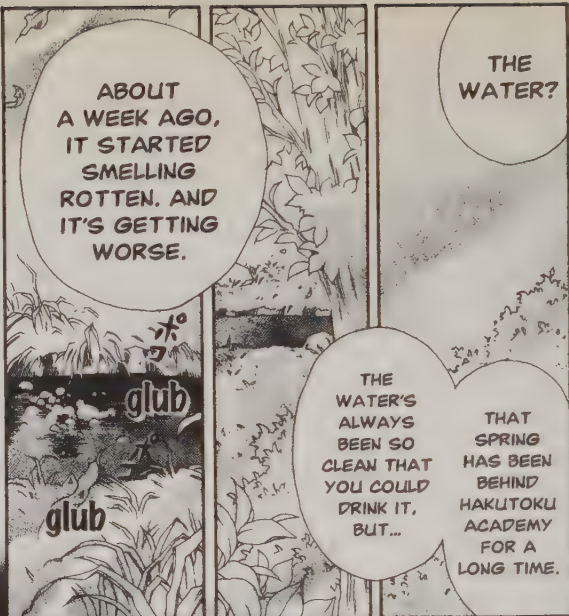
SO THAT'S
WHY YOU
NAMED THEM
MAYUNE AND
MAWATA.

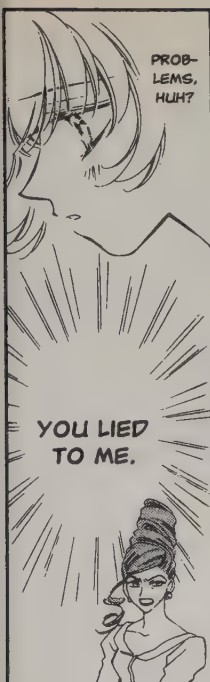
THE
WATER'S
ALWAYS
BEEN SO
CLEAN THAT
YOU COULD
DRINK IT,
BUT...

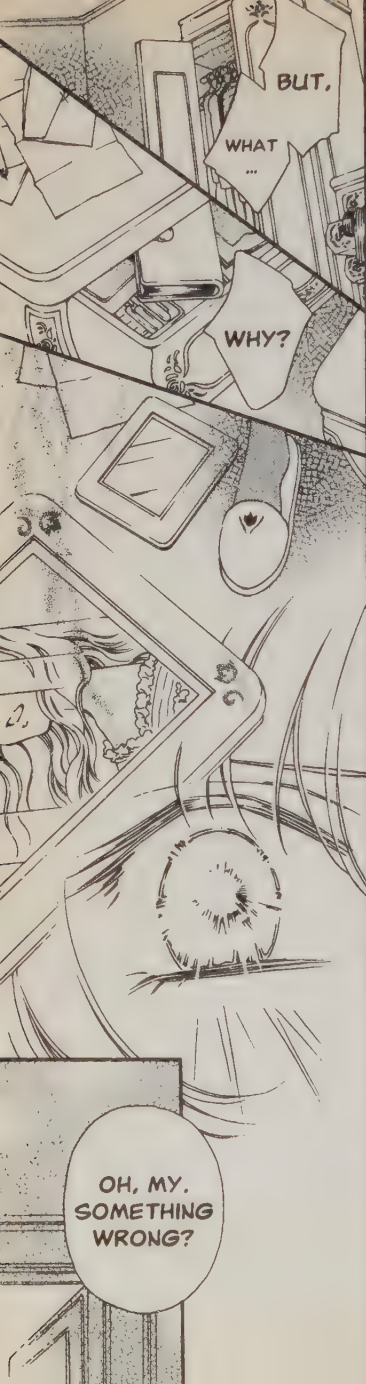
THAT
SPRING
HAS BEEN
BEHIND
HAKUTOKU
ACADEMY
FOR A
LONG TIME.

A WEEK?

こころい週間?
しゅうかん







JUST FOR A
LITTLE WALK I STILL
DON'T KNOW THE NEIGHBORHOOD
ALL THAT WELL

WHERE DID
YOU GO TODAY?

いそがし
いそがし
いそがし

いそがし
いそがし
いそがし

いそがし
いそがし
いそがし

I'D LOVE
FOR YOU
TO WRITE
A BOOK
LIKE THAT
AGAIN.

NAAH,
I DON'T
WRITE
ANYMORE.

I'M
HOME!

THE TWO
OF YOU
GET
ALONG
SO WELL.

WELL, IT'S
BEEN JUST
THE TWO
OF US FOR
TEN WHOLE
YEARS.

AND
BEING THE
WAY I AM, IT
WAS PRETTY
ROUGH FOR
HIMENO.

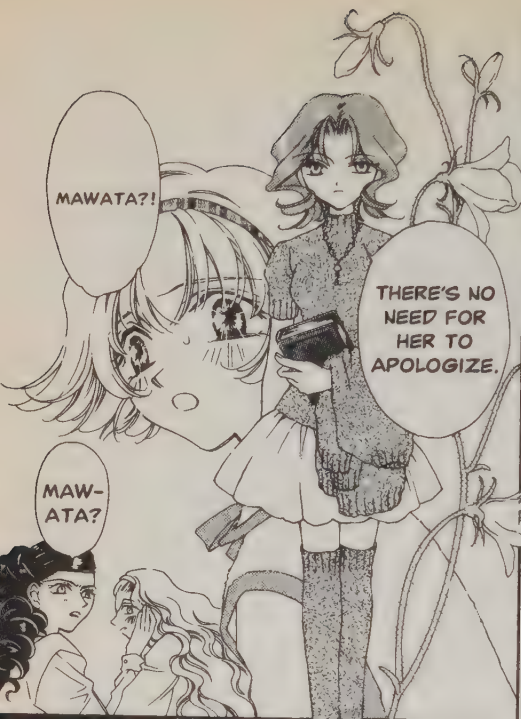
IT'S PAST
NOON ALREADY!

I THINK
SHE'S
REALLY
HAPPY TO
HAVE A
FAMILY
AGAIN.

WELCOME
BACK,
HIMENO!

AND
WHAT
ABOUT
YOU?

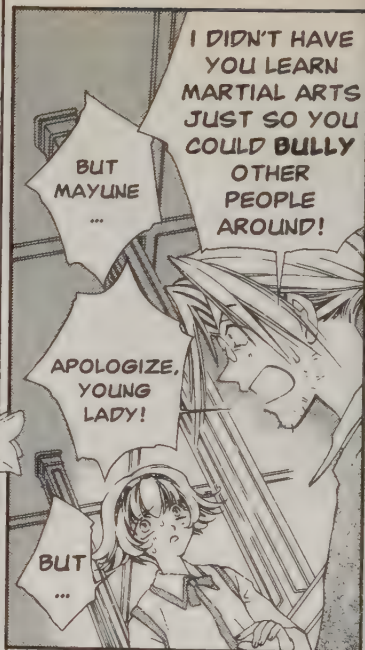




MAWATA?!

THERE'S NO
NEED FOR
HER TO
APOLOGIZE.

MAW-
ATA?

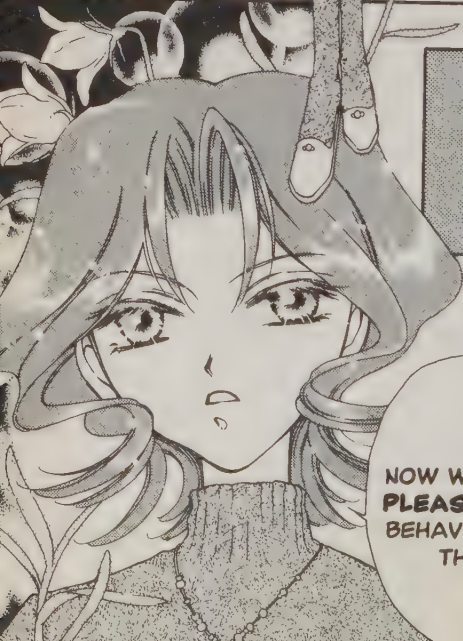


I DIDN'T HAVE
YOU LEARN
MARTIAL ARTS
JUST SO YOU
COULD **BULLY**
OTHER
PEOPLE
AROUND!

BUT
MAYLINE
...

APOLOGIZE,
YOUNG
LADY!

BUT
...



MAYLINE IS
THE ONE WHO
BARGED INTO HER
ROOM AND WENT
THROUGH ALL
HER THINGS.



BUT, MY
PEARL
NECKLACE...

NOW WILL YOU
PLEASE STOP
BEHAVING LIKE
THIS?

IS IN THE
DRESSER IN
THE LIVING
ROOM.
WHERE YOU
PUT IT.



I COULDN'T
FIND MY
PEARL
NECKLACE.

I THOUGHT
A CERTAIN
SOMEONE
MIGHT HAVE
TAKEN IT.

IT WAS
YOU,
WASN'T
IT?

YOU WENT
THROUGH ALL
MY LETTERS,
EVEN THE
PICTURES OF
MY MOM!

MAYUNE!

NO,
BUT...

DID
YOU
FIND
IT?

AND?

YOU
ARE THE
DAUGHTER
OF A
WASHED-UP
AUTHOR.

KNOWING
YOU, YOU'VE
ALREADY SOLD
IT FOR SOME
EXTRA MONEY.
AFTER ALL...

AAAA!

HIM-
ENO!

HOW
CRUEL!

MOMMA!
HIMENO
HIT ME!



click

WELCOME
TO "WORDS
GATE." I'M
YOUR HOST,
SASAME.

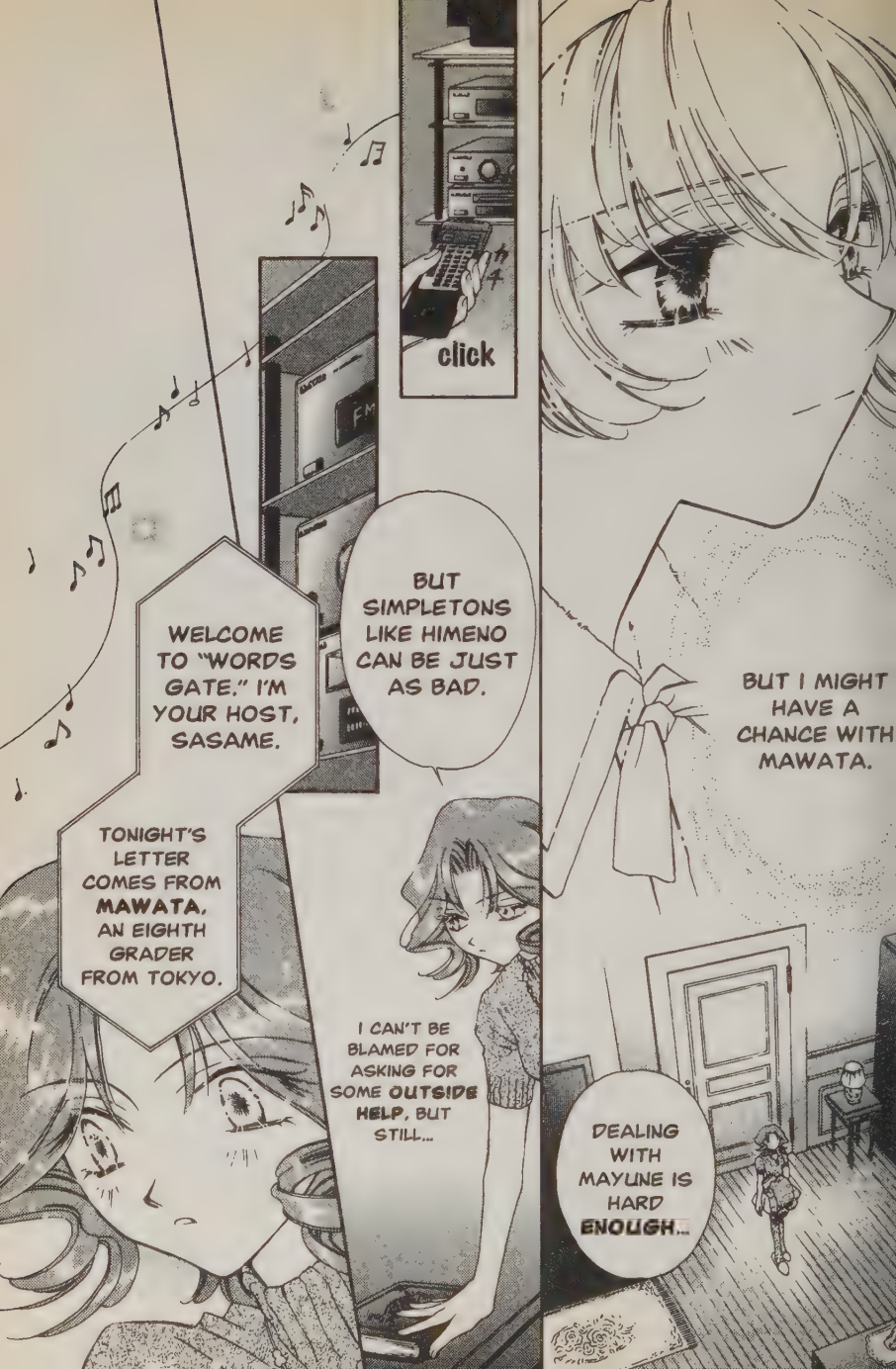
BUT
SIMPLETONS
LIKE HIMENO
CAN BE JUST
AS BAD.

TONIGHT'S
LETTER
COMES FROM
MAWATA,
AN EIGHTH
GRADER
FROM TOKYO.

I CAN'T BE
BLAMED FOR
ASKING FOR
SOME OUTSIDE
HELP, BUT
STILL...

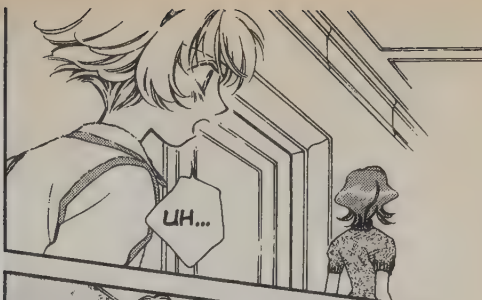
BUT I MIGHT
HAVE A
CHANCE WITH
MAWATA.

DEALING
WITH
MAYUNE IS
HARD
ENOUGH...



DON'T
MISUNDER-
STAND.

I ONLY
SPOKE UP
BECAUSE
MAYUNE WAS
ACTING SO
CHILDISH.



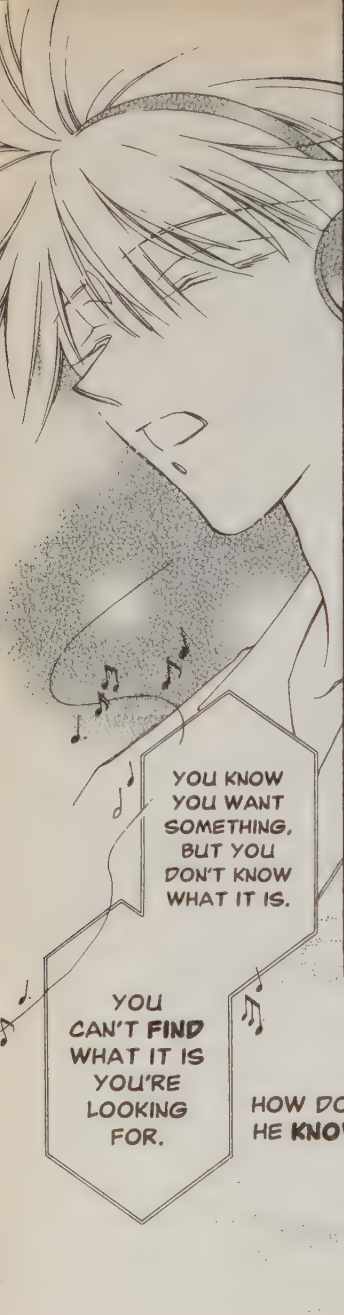
I DON'T
THINK I'LL
EVER GET
ALONG WITH
MAYUNE...



CLACK

1/10
A





WHO IS THIS
PERSON?

この人は誰？
ひとだれ

YOU THINK YOU
HAVE IT ALL-A
BIG HOUSE,
MONEY,
INTELLIGENCE,
GOOD
LOOKS...

YOU DON'T
UNDER-
STAND
WHAT'S
MISSING.

IT'S AS IF HE'S
LOOKING RIGHT
INTO ME.

YOU KNOW
YOU WANT
SOMETHING,
BUT YOU
DON'T KNOW
WHAT IT IS.


YOU
CAN'T FIND
WHAT IT IS
YOU'RE
LOOKING
FOR.

HOW DOES
HE KNOW?

WHEN
"FRIENDS" GET
JEALOUS,
THEY TALK
ABOUT YOU
BEHIND YOUR
BACK.

AND
BOYFRIENDS
EITHER TREAT
YOU LIKE A
GODDESS OR
USE YOU FOR
MONEY.

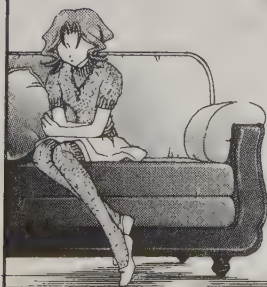
WORDS THAT
I'D WRITTEN
ON A
POSTCARD...



COME
BACK TO ME
OVER THE
AIRWAVES.



WELL, I'M NOT
GONNA GIVE
YOU ADVICE
LIKE "MAKE
FRIENDS" OR
"GET A
BOYFRIEND."



WHY DO I
HURT SO
MUCH?"

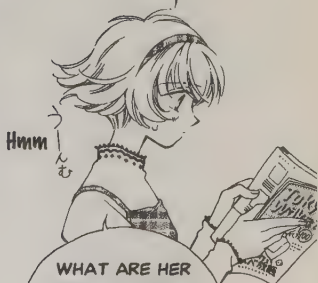
SO...

"EVERYBODY
IS JEALOUS
OF ME.

A BIG HOUSE,
LOTS OF
MONEY,
GOOD GRADES
AND GOOD
LOOKS, TOO."

"I HAVE
EVERYTHING
A PERSON
COULD
WANT.

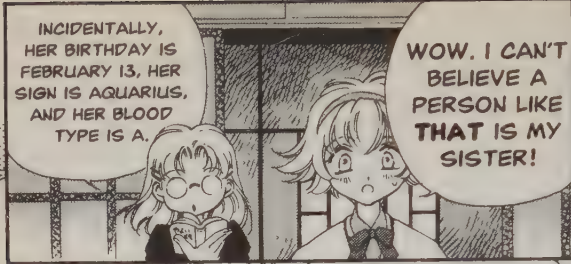
I WONDER
WHAT I CAN
DO TO MAKE
FRIENDS WITH
MAWATA.



WHAT ARE HER
HOBBIES? SHE'S A
WELL-BRED GIRL.
SHE PROBABLY GOES
TO CLASSICAL MUSIC
CONCERTS, OR
KABUKI.

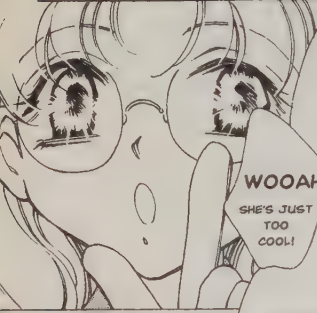
THOSE THINGS MAKE
ME FALL ASLEEP!

おかしな
人だね
うん




INCIDENTALLY,
HER BIRTHDAY IS
FEBRUARY 13, HER
SIGN IS AQUARIUS,
AND HER BLOOD
TYPE IS A.

WOW. I CAN'T
BELIEVE A
PERSON LIKE
THAT IS MY
SISTER!



SHE'S AT THE TOP
OF HER CLASS. HER
TALENTS ARE
JAPANESE DANCE,
SOCIAL DANCE,
PIANO, VIOLIN, TEA
CEREMONY AND
FLOWER ARRANGING.
HER MANNERS ARE
IMPECCABLE.

WOOAH
SHE'S JUST
TOO
COOL!



SHE'S WELL VERSED IN
THE ARTS AND MUSIC.
AND SURPRISINGLY, SHE
LISTENS TO THE
"WORDS GATE WITH
SASAME" RADIO
PROGRAM!

"WORDS
GATE?"
I GUESS
THAT'S MY
FRIEND
SASAME'S
TALK SHOW.



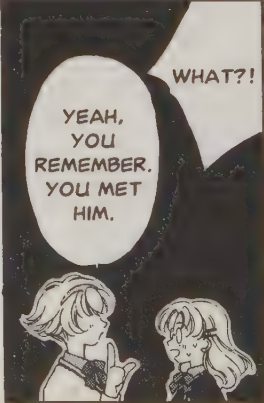
I'LL TELL
YOU ABOUT
MAWATA
AWAYUKI!
SHE'S THE
MOST
BEAUTIFUL
GIRL IN
HAKUTOKU
ACADEMY!

SHE'S SO
POPULAR SHE
HAS FAN CLUBS
IN MIDDLE
SCHOOL, HIGH
SCHOOL, AND
COLLEGE!



LET ME
TELL YOU
ABOUT
SASAME!

ON HIS
SHOW, IF
SOMEONE
HAS A
PROBLEM, HE
MAKES UP A
SONG FOR
THEM.



YEAH,
YOU
REMEMBER.
YOU MET
HIM.

WHAT?!

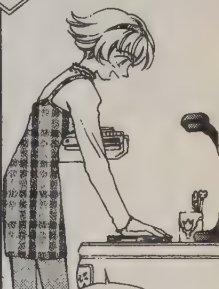
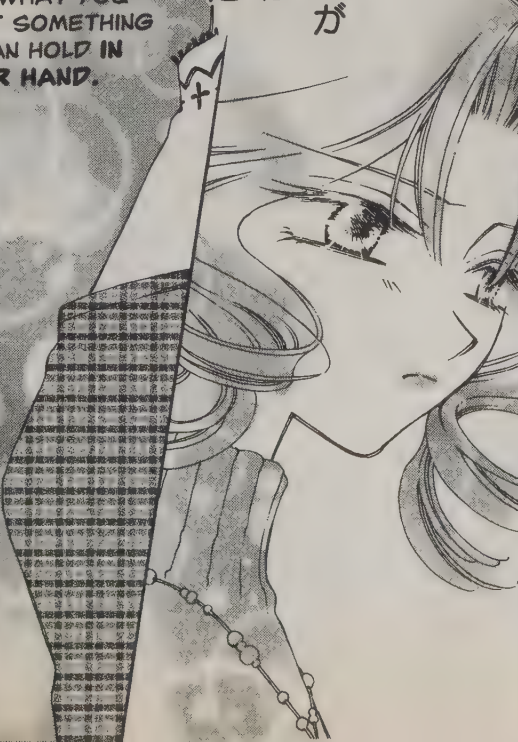


BUT YOU KNOW,
MAYBE WHAT YOU
FIND ISN'T SOMETHING
YOU CAN HOLD IN
YOUR HAND.

見つ^みけたもの^が
手^てに入^{はい}るとは
限^{かぎ}らないのだ

EVEN IF YOU
DID FIND
SOMETHING
YOU WANTED...

YOU'D START
LOOKING ALL
OVER AGAIN,
FOR SOMETHING
YOU DON'T
KNOW IF
YOU'LL EVER
FIND.



ALRIGHT!
I'LL TRY
INVITING
HER OUT!
WE'RE
SISTERS,

RIGHT?

BUT IT'S KIND
OF STRANGE.
IT'S ALREADY
MAY, BUT...

A COUPLE?

dazed

THAT'D
BE NICE...

THE
FLOWERS
HAVEN'T
BLOOMED
YET.

HIMENO.

HERE'S
THE TREE
IN ACTION,
NOW.

WHOA!

UM,
PLEASE
READ
THIS!

YOU SURE
KNOW A
LOT ABOUT
HIM, YAYOI.

HE'S CHARMING AND
REALLY POPULAR! HE
HASN'T DONE A **CD** AND
HE'S NEVER BEEN ON TV, SO
THE RUMOR IS THAT HE
DOESN'T SHOW HIS FACE
BECAUSE IT WOULD RUIN
HIS IMAGE.

AS IF
THAT
WASN'T
ALREADY
DREAMY
ENOUGH.

I'M NOT
SURE IF

OH.

THAT
MAKES ME
HAPPY

OR
NOT...

SASAME
IS THAT
POPULAR,
HUH?

BUT...
THAT
WAS HIM,
WASN'T
IT?

うっ!♡

Dreamy

I GUESS
SHE'S A FAN

YOU'RE
THINKING
ABOUT
ASKING
HIM OUT,
AREN'T
YOU?

HUH?

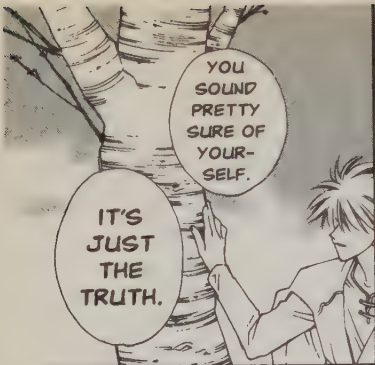
HE
SEEMS
LIKE A
NICE
PERSON.

THE
STORY GOES
THAT IF YOU
STAND UNDER
THAT TREE

AND TELL
SOMEONE
YOU LIKE HIM,
YOU'RE **SURE**
TO BECOME A
COUPLE!

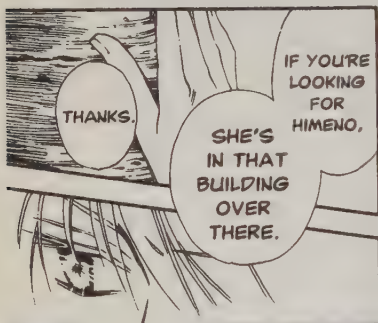
DO YOU
SEE THAT
CHERRY
TREE OVER
THERE?

OF
COURSE
NOT!



YOU SOUND
PRETTY
SURE OF
YOUR-
SELF.

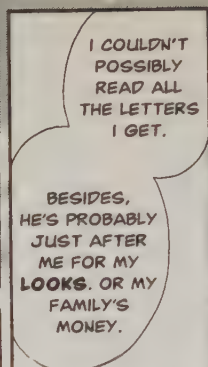
IT'S
JUST
THE
TRUTH.



THANKS.

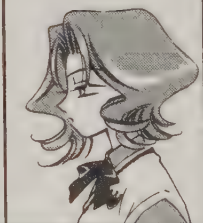
IF YOU'RE
LOOKING
FOR
HIMENO,

SHE'S
IN THAT
BUILDING
OVER
THERE.

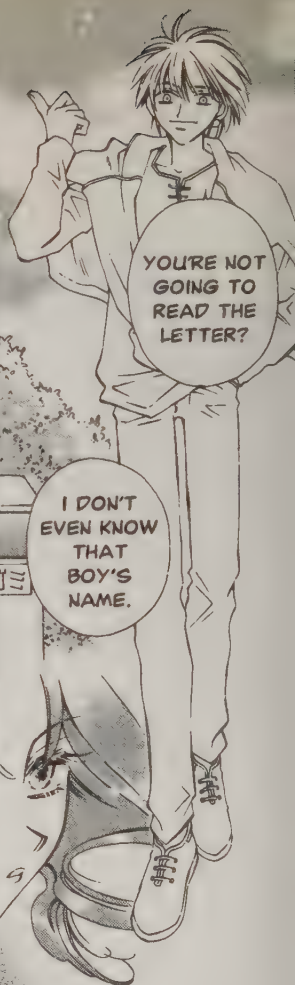


I COULDN'T
POSSIBLY
READ ALL
THE LETTERS
I GET.

BESIDES,
HE'S PROBABLY
JUST AFTER
ME FOR MY
LOOKS. OR MY
FAMILY'S
MONEY.



I DON'T
EVEN KNOW
THAT
BOY'S
NAME.



YOU'RE NOT
GOING TO
READ THE
LETTER?



WELL
THEN,
TAKE
CARE.

RAPUNZEL
WAS
TRAPPED
IN A
WITCH'S
TOWER...

OR SHOULD
I SAY, A
VIOLET
INSTEAD OF
A CHERRY
BLOSSOM?

WHO'S
THERE?

NOT
EVEN THE
LIGHT OR
THE SILKY
BREEZE CAN
COAX HER
TO OPEN."

"SHE IS THE
BUD OF A
CHERRY
BLOSSOM,
TIGHTLY
CLOSED ...

CRUMPLE

YOU'RE
HIMENO'S
FRIEND,

AREN'T
YOU?
YOU CAME
TO OUR
HOUSE
ONCE.

IT'S
YOU...

thump



REALLY...

UH,

I'M
YOUR...

WHAT?

YOU
SHOULD
GET
AWAY
FROM
HERE.

IT SEEMS
I WAS
RIGHT,
AFTER
ALL.

ba-dump

IS HE...

この子か

SASAME.

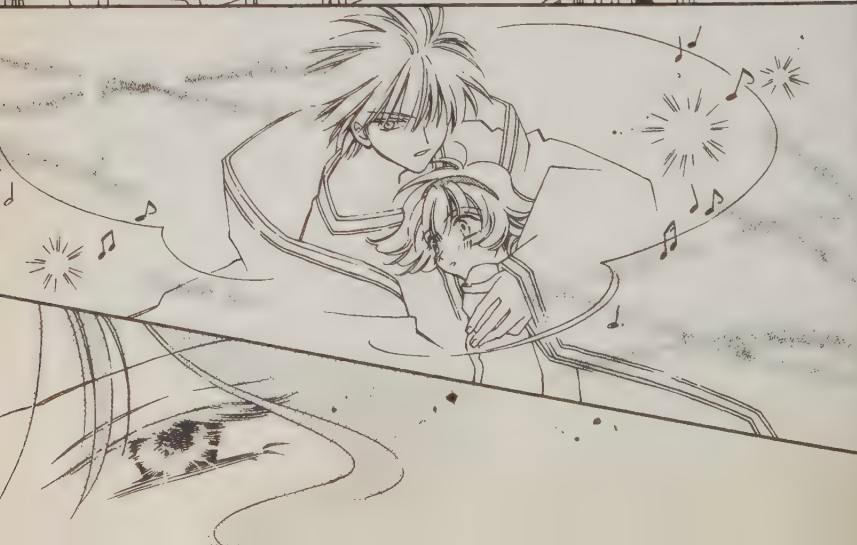
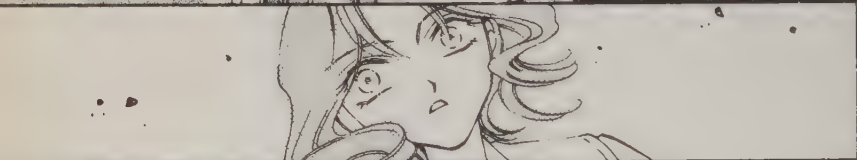
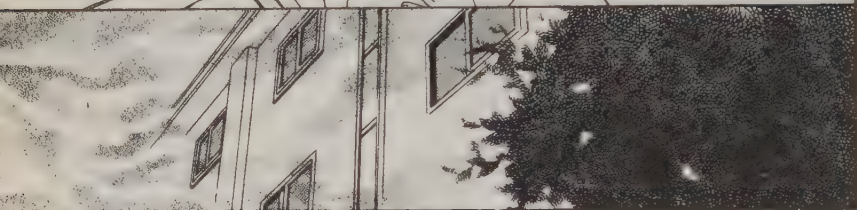
AND
YOU'RE
MAWATA,
RIGHT?

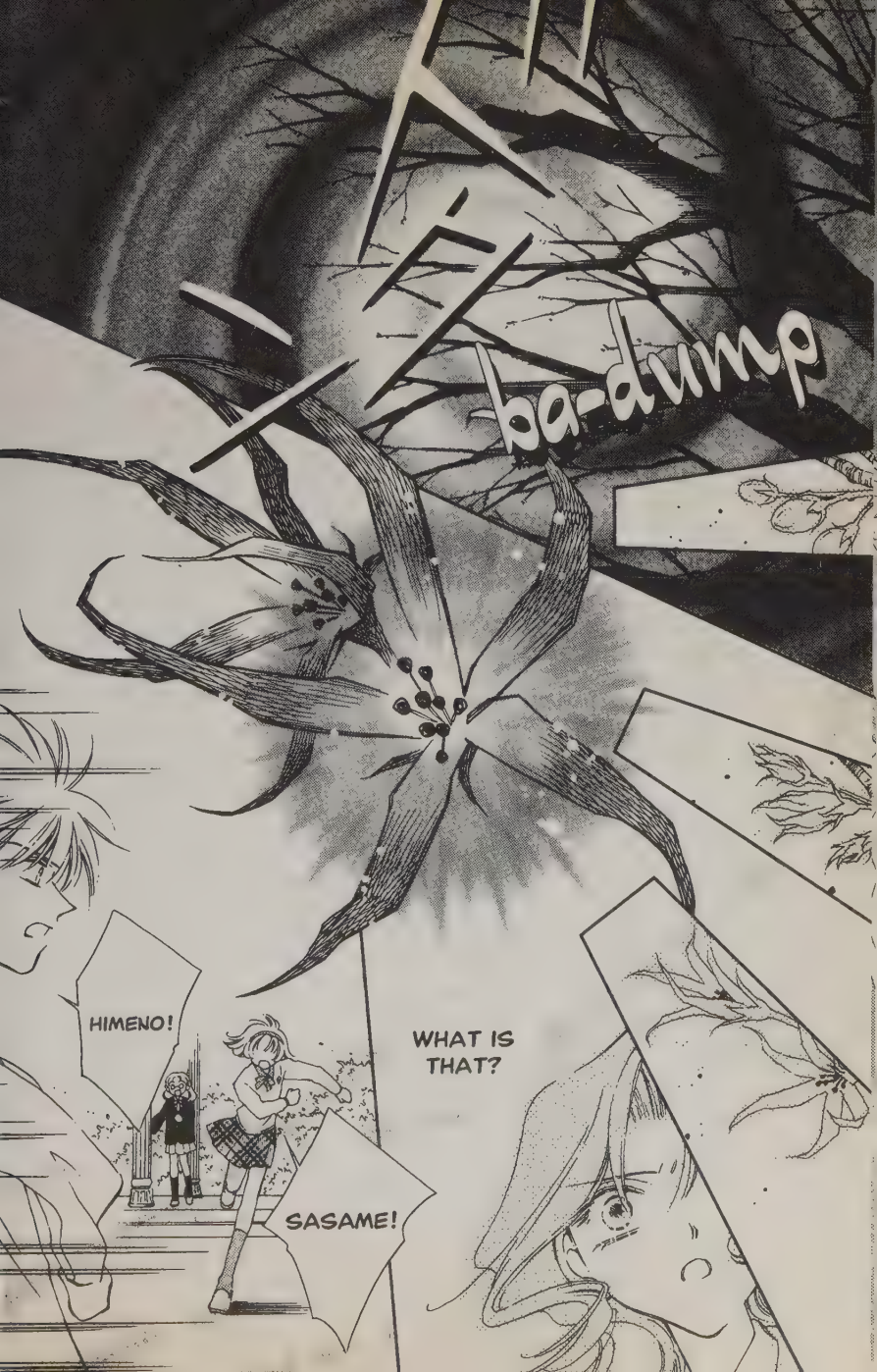
SOMEDAY, I
HOPE YOU'LL
FIND IT, TOO:

THAT THING
YOU WANT.
WHAT YOU
DESIRE...
WHEN YOU'RE
DOWN FROM
THAT TOWER.

IT
CAN'T
BE!

WHO
ARE
YOU?





ba-dump

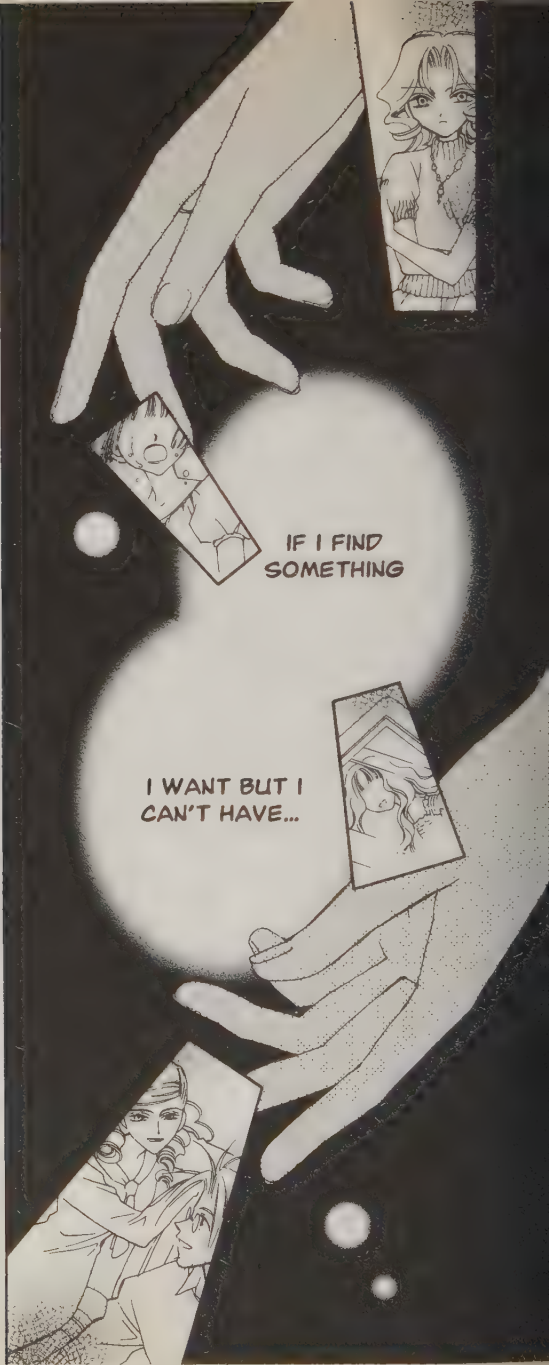
HIMENO!

WHAT IS
THAT?

SASAME!


THAT FACT WILL
HAUNT ME...

UNTIL THE
VERY END.



IF I FIND
SOMETHING

I WANT BUT I
CAN'T HAVE...




EVERYONE
WANTS TO
BE HAPPY,
BUT...

EVEN IF
YOU FIND
WHAT
YOU
WANT...

THERE
ARE SOME
THINGS THAT
YOU JUST
CAN'T HAVE.

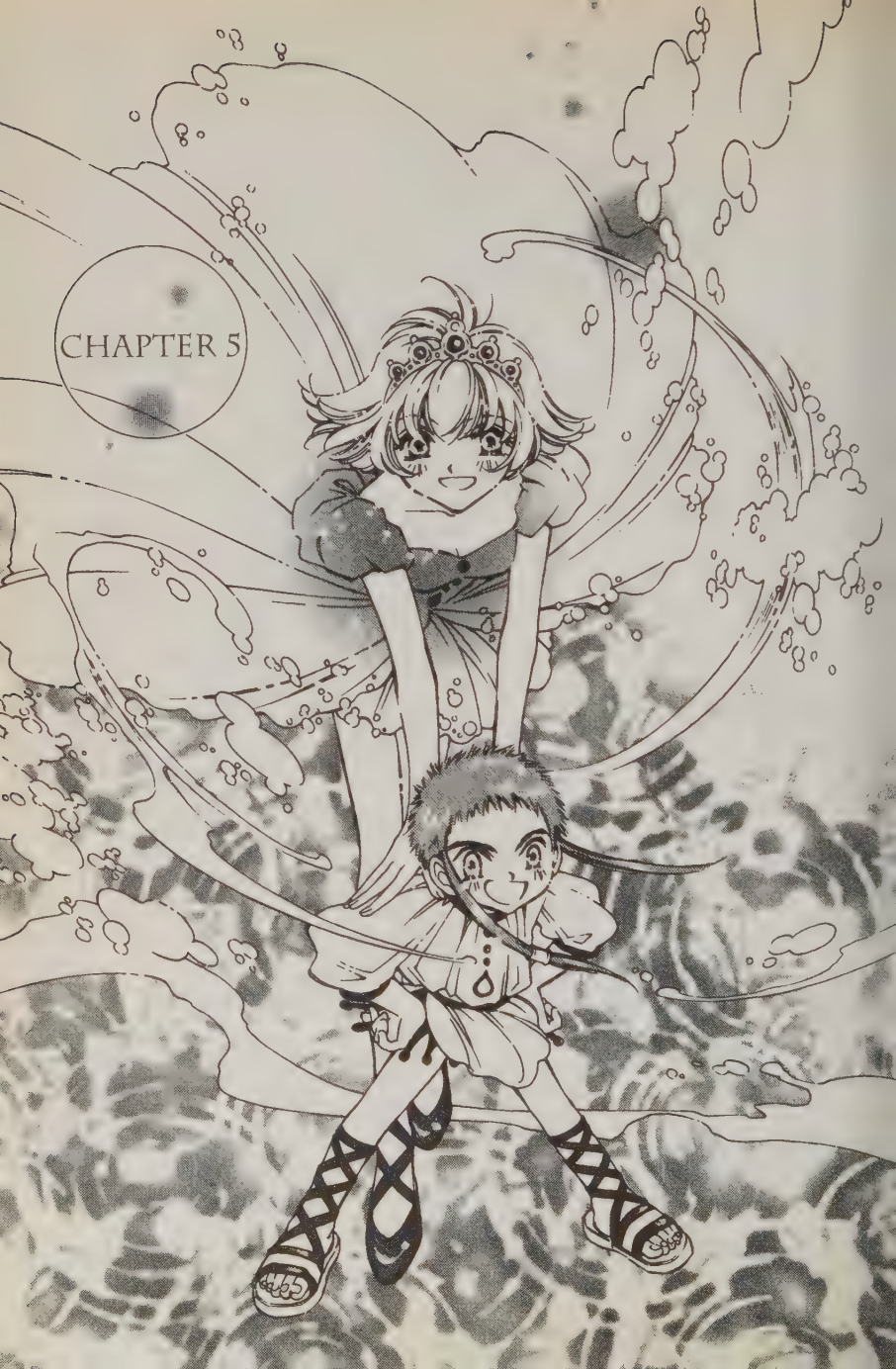
YAYOI...
MAWATA...



SASAME,
EVERY-
ONE'S
....

WE CAN'T
DO ANY-
THING
NOW!

CHAPTER 5



H A J I M E



HAJIME

Knight of Water

Hair: Orange **Eyes:** Aquamarine

Birthday: April 8 **Sign:** Aries

Blood Type: O

Good at making models

Favorite drink: Orange juice

IT HURTS.

WHO...

IT HURTS...

この痛み……
いた
誰？
だれ

WHOSE PAIN
IS THIS?

ALIGH





YAYOI!

MAWATA!

SHOVE

HIMENO!

pop

pop

DO YOU
HAVE ANY
IDEA WHAT'LL
HAPPEN IF YOU
JUST RUSH
INTO A FIGHT
WITHOUT THE
LEAFE KNIGHTS
TO GUARD
YOU?

BUT,
EVERY-
ONE'S
...

YOU NEVER
LEARN, DO
YOU?

Huh?

WHORE
YOU
CALLING A
FOOL?!

YOU ACT
LIKE A
FOOL, I'M
GONNA
CALL YOU
ONE!

NO BUTS!
IT'S TOO
MUCH FOR
YOU TO
HANDLE,
SO STOP
TRYING TO
FOOL! DO IT!

YOU
THINK?

YEAH,
FIGHTING
LIKE OLD
FRIENDS!

THOSE
TWO
FIGHT
EVERY
TIME THEY
MEET.

WOULD YOU TWO
PLEASE STOP
YOUR LITTLE
LOVERS' QUARREL?
THIS IS AN
EMERGENCY.

WHO... WHO YOU
CALLING LOVERS?

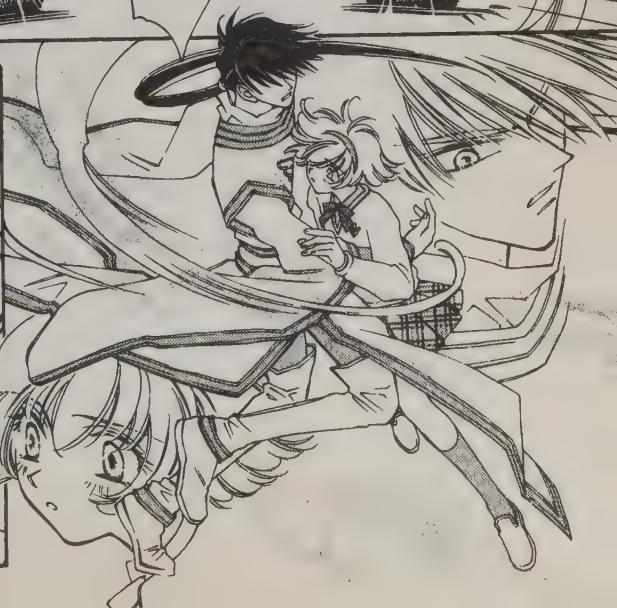
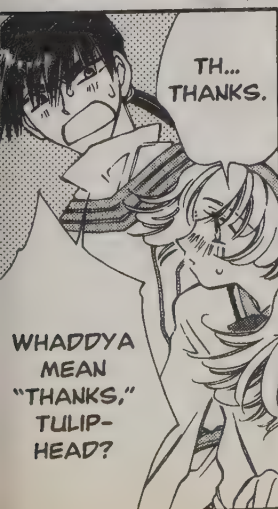
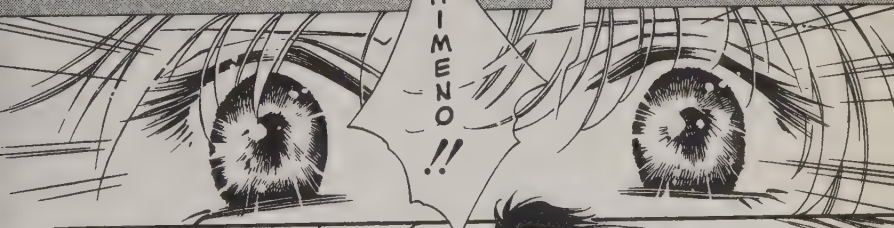
CUT IT
OUT KEK

IT SEEMS
ONE OF THE
PRINCESS OF
DISASTER'S
SEEDS IS
FEEDING
OFF OF IT.

BUT THE
SEED
ISN'T
HERE.

SO, THIS
CHERRY
TREE
IS THE
SOURCE?

Pwft



I DON'T
WANT
TO KILL
IT...

ISN'T
THERE
SOME
OTHER
WAY?

SHIN...
新

SOB.

YOU'RE
GOING
TO
KILL
IT?

FINE,
THEN I'LL
BECOME THE
PRÉTEAR OF
SOUND AND
GO LOOK
FOR IT!

BUT IF
WE
CAN'T
FIND
THE
SEED.

IF WE
DESTROYED
THE SEED,
THE TREE
WOULD GO
BACK TO
NORMAL.

IT WILL
FEED ON
LEAFE,
JUST LIKE
A SEED.

ONCE IT
COMES
UNDER HER
CONTROL,
THERE'S
NOTHING
WE CAN
DO.

KILLING THIS
ONE TREE
WILL SAVE A
LOT OF
PEOPLE'S
LIVES.

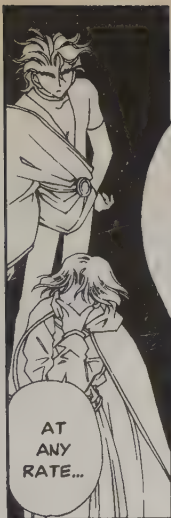
BUT!

THIS TREE'S
POLLEN IS
POISONOUS.
IF WE DON'T
KILL IT SOON,
EVERYONE
WILL DIE.

UNFOR-
TUNATELY,
WE DON'T
HAVE TIME.

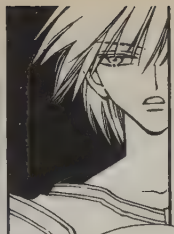
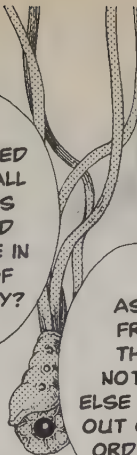
IF YOU
REALLY
ARE THE
PRÉTEAR,

THEN YOU
HAVE TO
DO IT.



DID THE SEED
CONSUME ALL
THE TREE'S
LEAF, AND
THEN LEAVE IN
SEARCH OF
OTHER PREY?

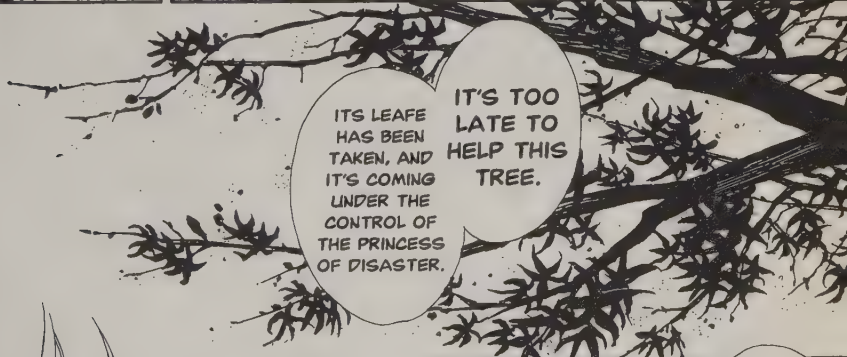
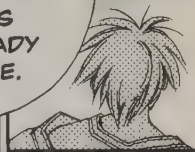
AT
ANY
RATE...



WHAT
DOES IT
MEAN?

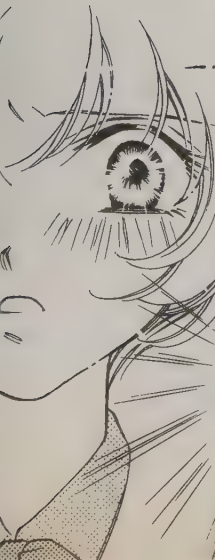
ASIDE
FROM
THAT,
NOTHING
ELSE SEEMS
OUT OF THE
ORDINARY.

WHEN I
CAME HERE,
THE TREE'S
"VOICE"
WAS
ALREADY
GONE.



ITS LEAF
HAS BEEN
TAKEN, AND
IT'S COMING
UNDER THE
CONTROL OF
THE PRINCESS
OF DISASTER.

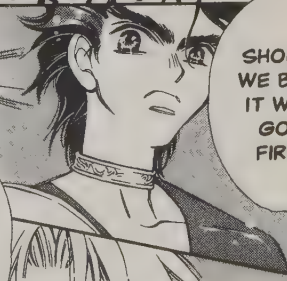
IT'S TOO
LATE TO
HELP THIS
TREE.



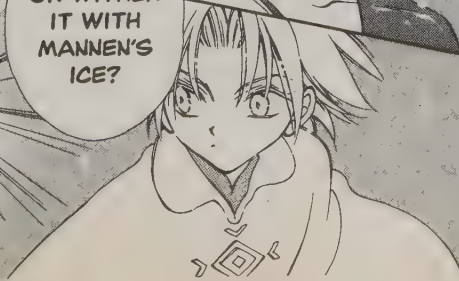
WHAT?

WHAT
IS HE
SAYING?

OR WITHER
IT WITH
MANNEN'S
ICE?



SHOULD
WE BURN
IT WITH
GO'S
FIRE?



WHAT AM
I CRYING
FOR?

SHIN...

I
THOUGHT
I TOLD
YOU!

THE
PRÉTEAR
CAN'T
AFFORD TO
THINK SO
NAÏVELY!

I'M NOT
BEING
NAÏVE!

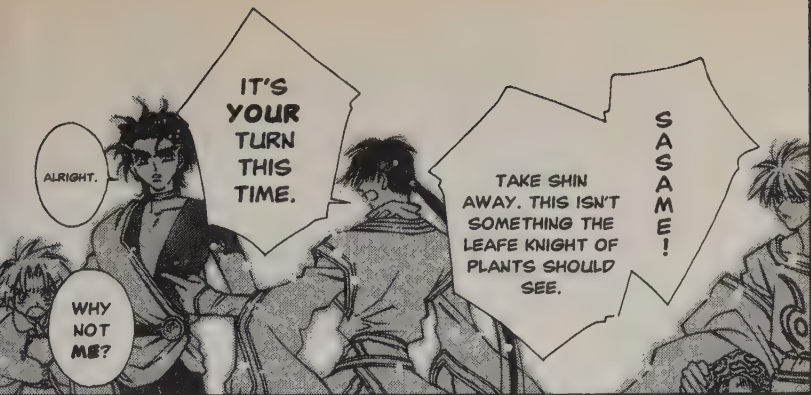
AND...

THE
CHERRY
TREE...

I WONDER
WHY...

THE
EARTH... ?

I CAN
UNDERSTAND
THIS PAIN?



ALRIGHT.

IT'S
YOUR
TURN
THIS
TIME.

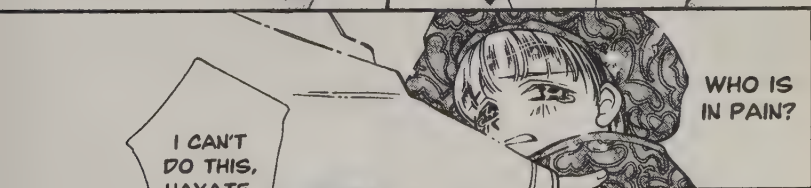
TAKE SHIN
AWAY. THIS ISN'T
SOMETHING THE
LEAF KNIGHT OF
PLANTS SHOULD
SEE.

S
A
S
A
M
E
!

WHY
NOT
ME?

IT HURTS...

throb



I CAN'T
DO THIS,
HAYATE.

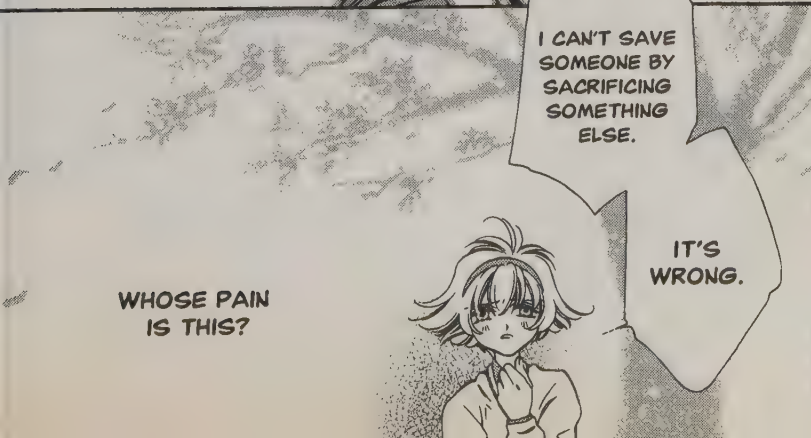
WHO IS
IN PAIN?



I CAN'T SAVE
SOMEONE BY
SACRIFICING
SOMETHING
ELSE.

WHOSE PAIN
IS THIS?

IT'S
WRONG.



THAT
IMAGE...

あの
イメージ

WATER?

BUT

HOW?

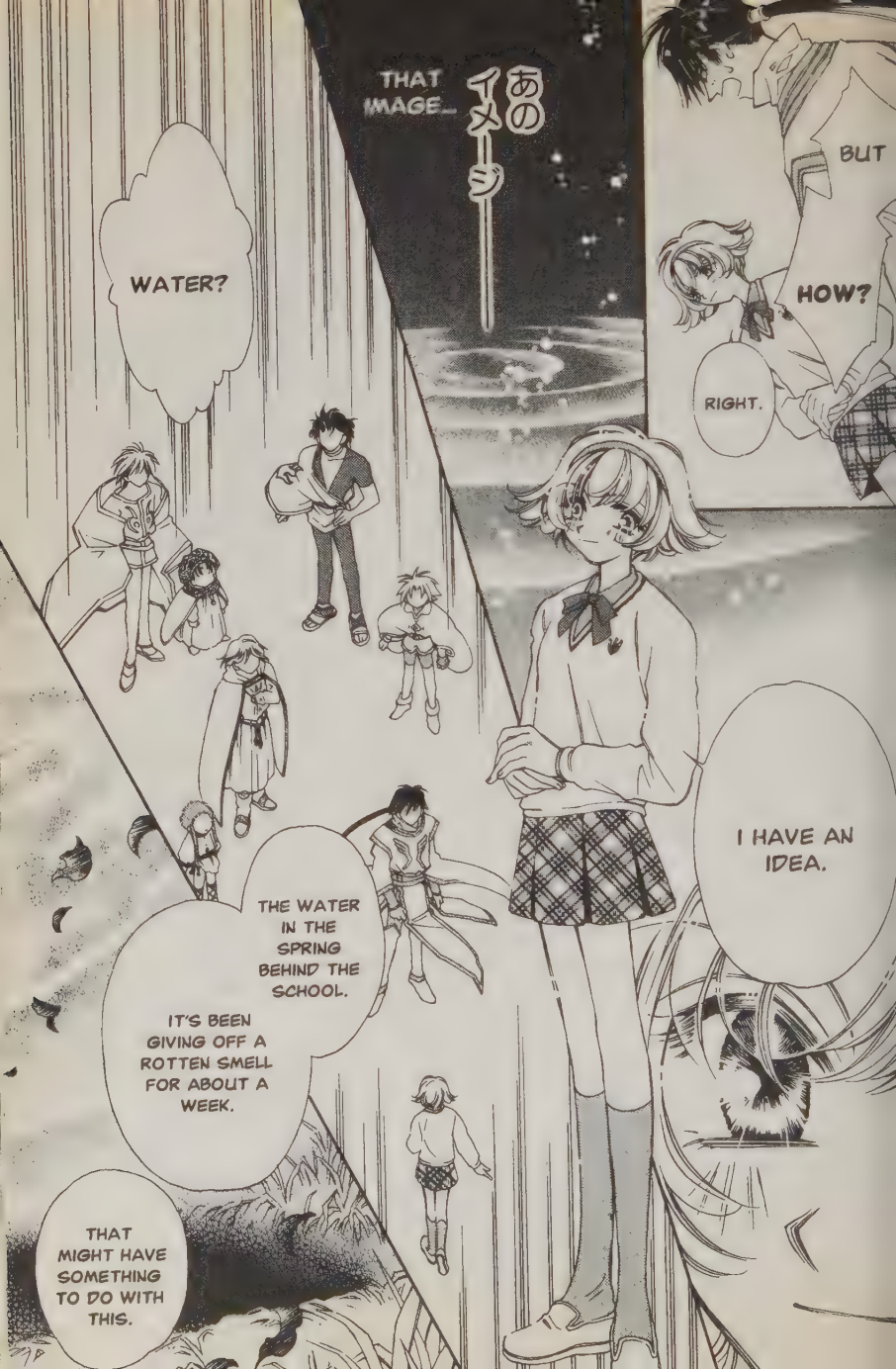
RIGHT.

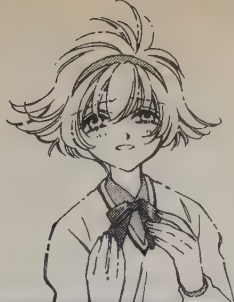
I HAVE AN
IDEA.

THE WATER
IN THE
SPRING
BEHIND THE
SCHOOL.

IT'S BEEN
GIVING OFF A
ROTTEN SMELL
FOR ABOUT A
WEEK.

THAT
MIGHT HAVE
SOMETHING
TO DO WITH
THIS.





THE PRÉTEAR CAN
CREATE NEW
LEAFE, RIGHT?

I CAN SEE
IN THEIR
EYES...

WELL
THEN,

THERE HAS
TO BE SOME
OTHER WAY.

HIME...

THEY'RE IN
PAIN, BUT THEY
PRETEND THEY'RE
FINE.



HIMENO!



IF
THERE'S
A SEED
FEEDING
OFF THE
WATER'S
LEAF,

IT'S NO
SURPRISE
THAT
HAJIME
CAN'T
SENSE IT.

glub

ニホ

glub

LEAFE
KNIGHT OF
WATER!
IT'S YOUR
TURN.

I KNEW
IT!



WHAT?

IF THERE'S
SPRING WATER
NEARBY, I
SHOULD BE
ABLE TO
SENSE IT.
BUT I DON'T.

WHAT
DOES
THAT
MEAN?

THE LEAFE
KNIGHTS CAN
SENSE THE
PARTICULAR KIND
OF LEAFE THEY
HAVE CONTROL
OVER.

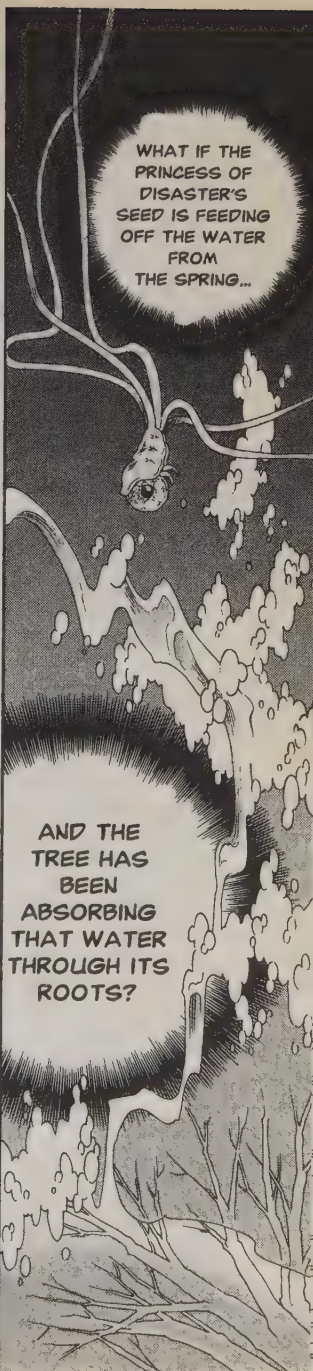
BUT WATER
THAT HAS
LOST ITS
LEAFE ISN'T
"WATER"
ANYMORE.

SO...



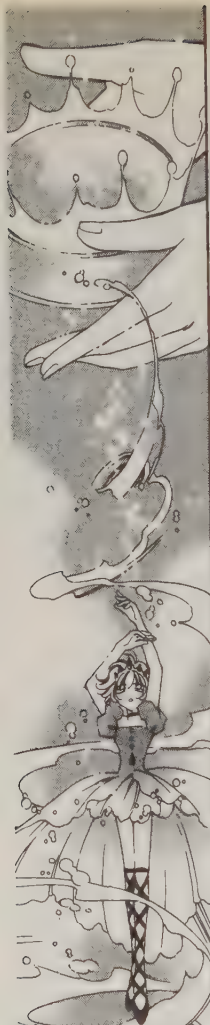
WE
CAN'T BE
SURE...

BUT I
CAN'T
SENSE
ANY
WATER.



WHAT IF THE
PRINCESS OF
DISASTER'S
SEED IS FEEDING
OFF THE WATER
FROM
THE SPRING...

AND THE
TREE HAS
BEEN
ABSORBING
THAT WATER
THROUGH ITS
ROOTS?

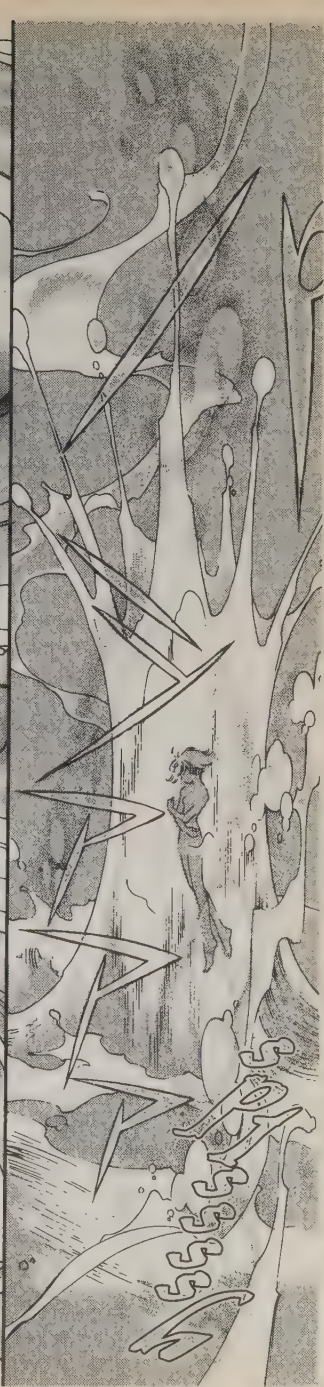


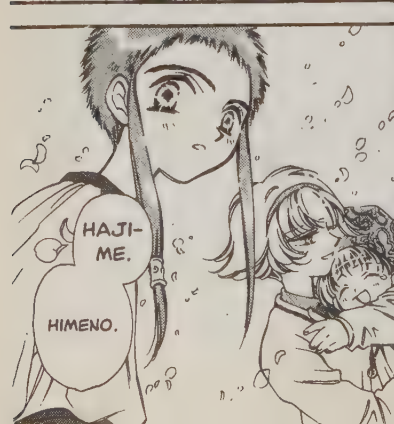
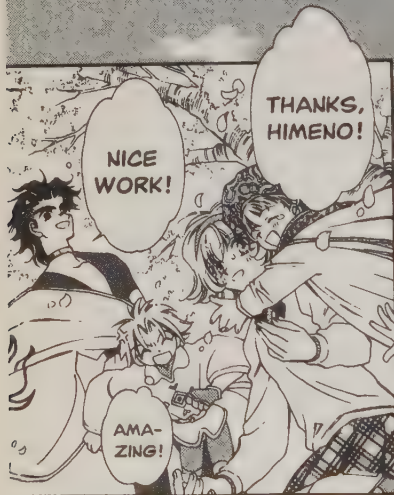
HIMENO.

YEAH.

CREATE A
NEW LEAF
OF WATER!



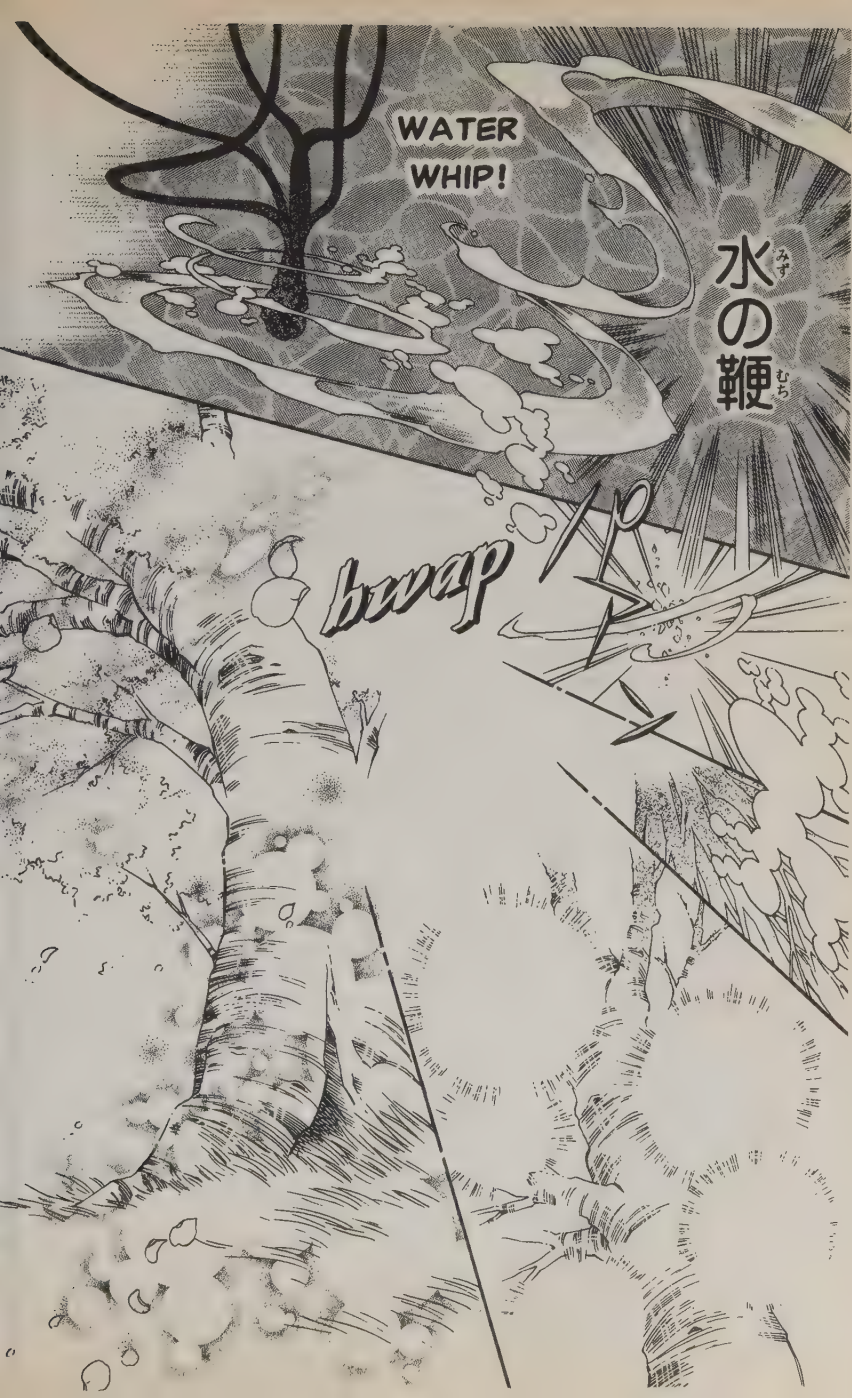




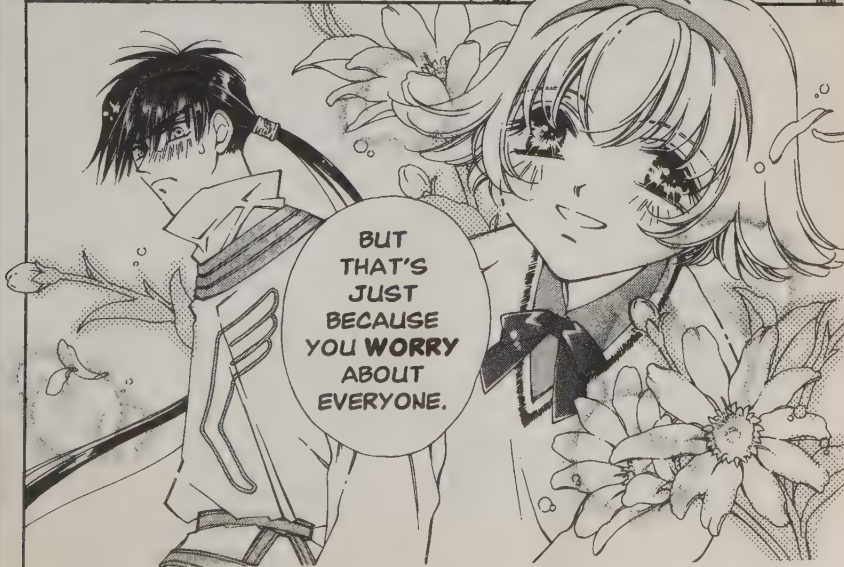
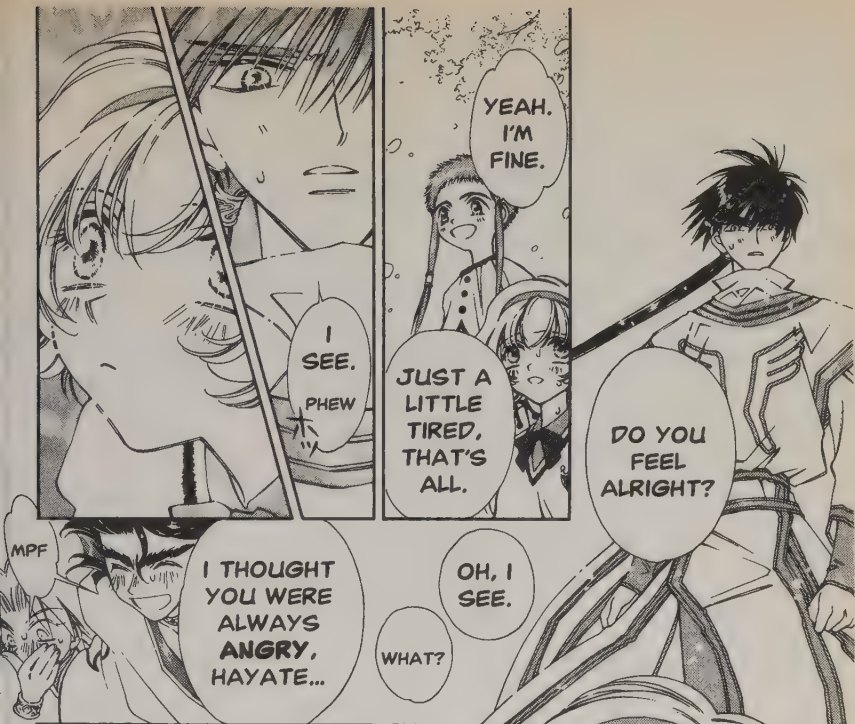
WATER
WHIP!

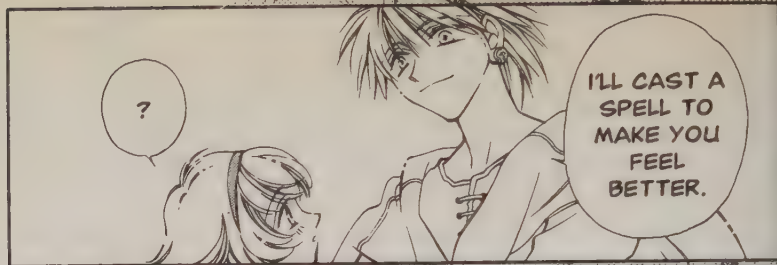
水の鞭
みづのむち

bevap

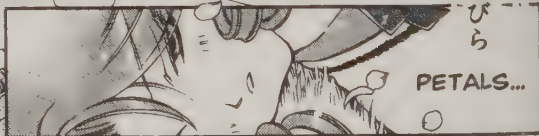








音お
SOUND...



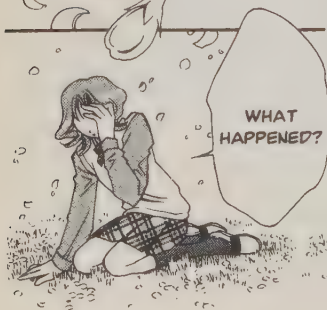
花はな
びら
PETALS...

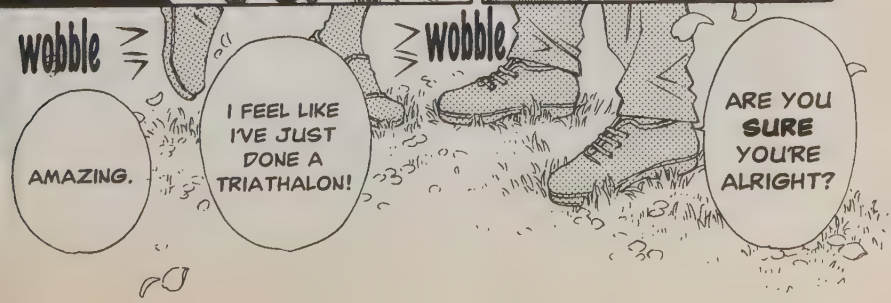
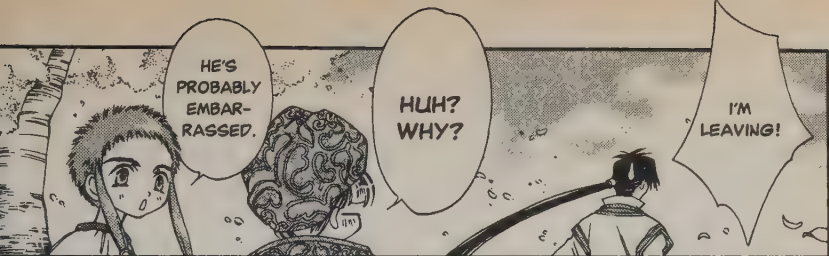
桜き
A CHERRY TREE...

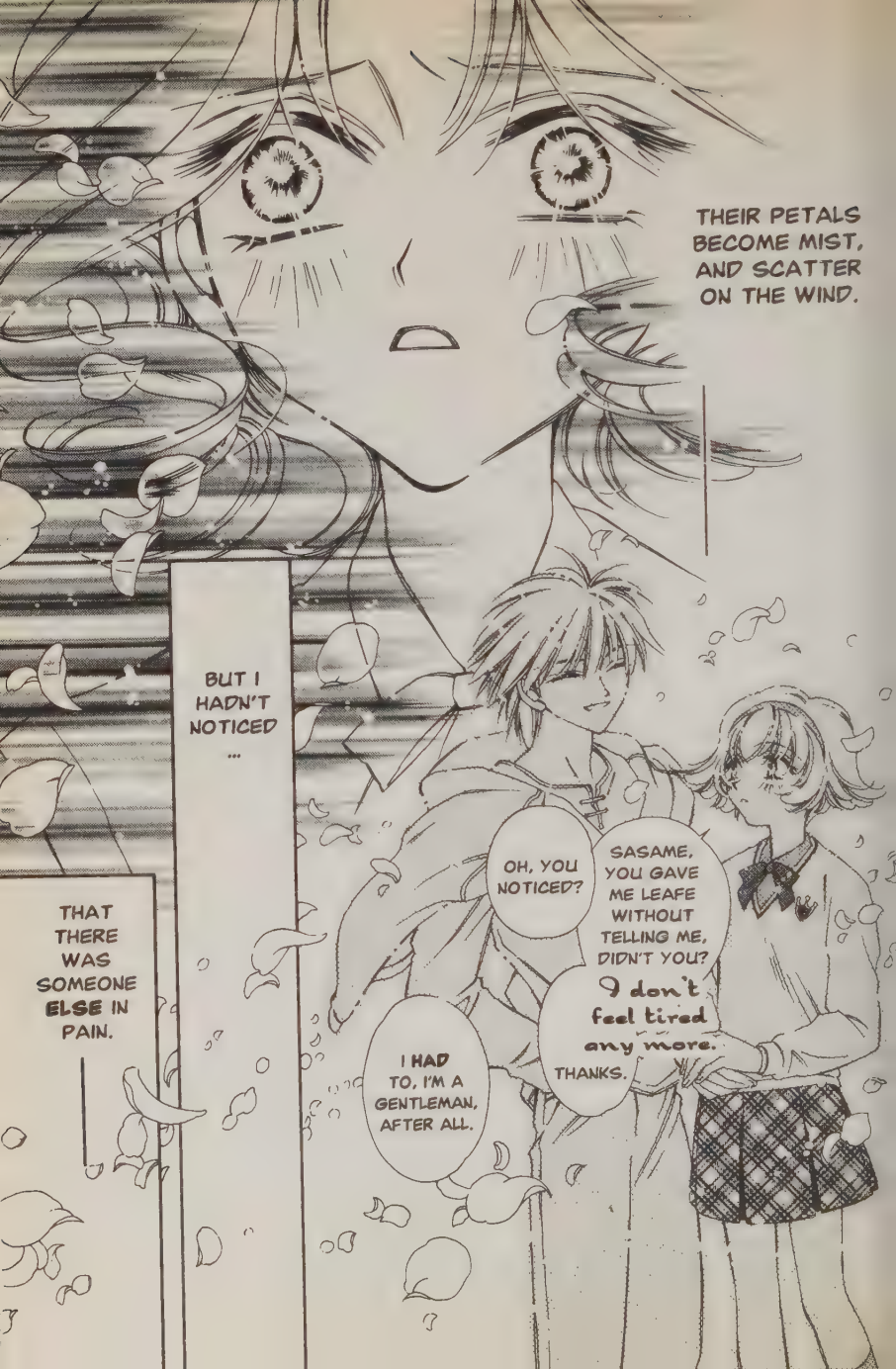
A SONG.
うた
A SONG.

歌うた

WHAT
HAPPENED?







THEIR PETALS
BECOME MIST,
AND SCATTER
ON THE WIND.

BUT I
HADN'T
NOTICED

THAT
THERE
WAS
SOMEONE
ELSE IN
PAIN.


OH, YOU
NOTICED?

SASAME,
YOU GAVE
ME LEAF
WITHOUT
TELLING ME,
DIDN'T YOU?

I don't
feel tired
any more.

THANKS.

I HAD
TO, I'M A
GENTLEMAN,
AFTER ALL.




WAS
IT A
DREAM?




SPRING...

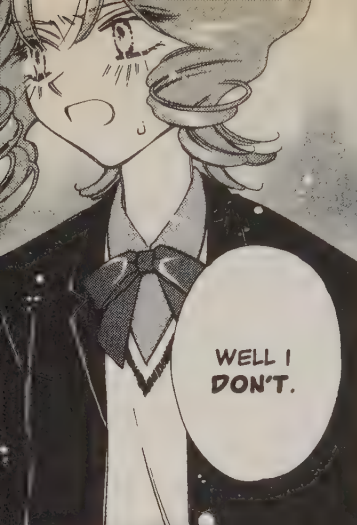
DRAWS NEAR,
LIKE A DREAM OF
DAWN...



COAXING THE
SLEEPING CHERRY
TREES TO OPEN
THEIR TIGHTLY
CLOSED BUDS.



BUT THE
BLOSSOMS
THEMSELVES ARE
JUST ANOTHER
DREAM...



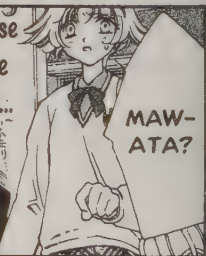
WELL I
DON'T.

NO, I JUST
WANTED TO
KNOW MORE
ABOUT YOU.
WE'RE
SISTERS
NOW,

AND
I'D LIKE
US TO
GET
ALONG.

WELL,
I ASKED
SOMEONE

"ASKED?"
SO NOW
YOU'RE
GOSSIPING
ABOUT
ME?



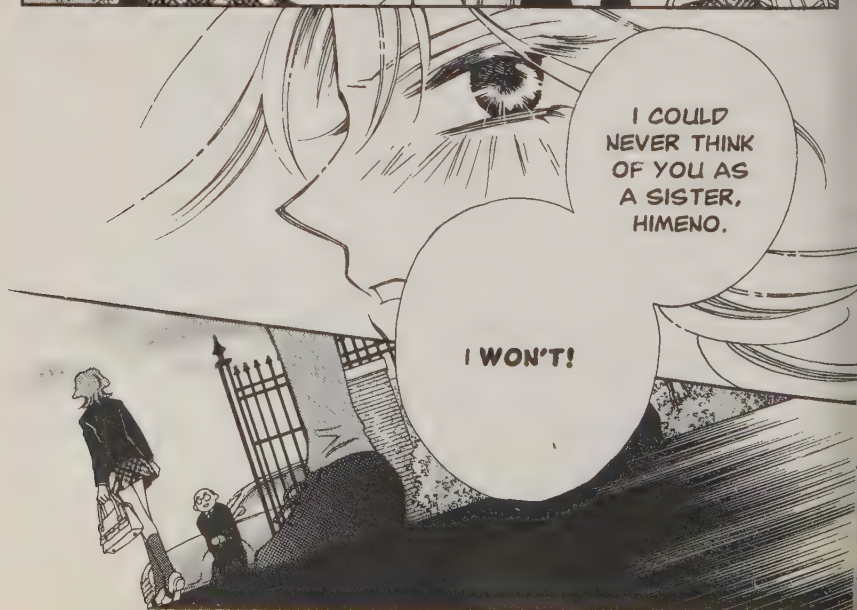
MAW-
ATA?

Hey, those
two are
fighting...

I DON'T LIKE
PEOPLE
WHO GO
SNEAKING
AROUND
BEHIND MY
BACK.

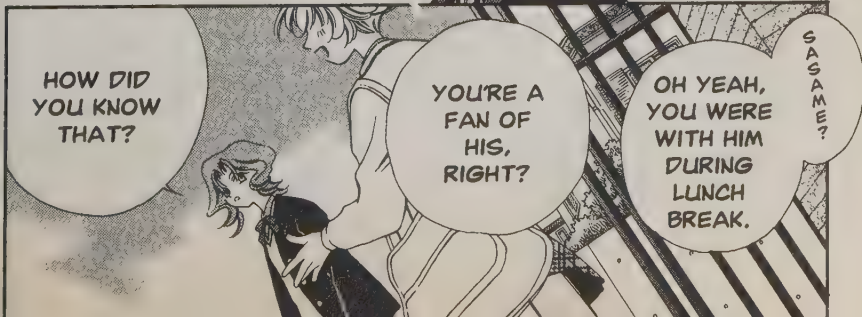
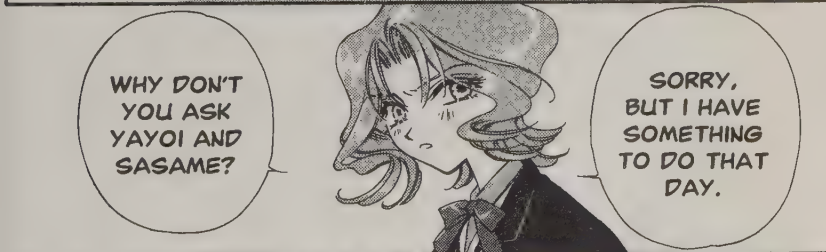
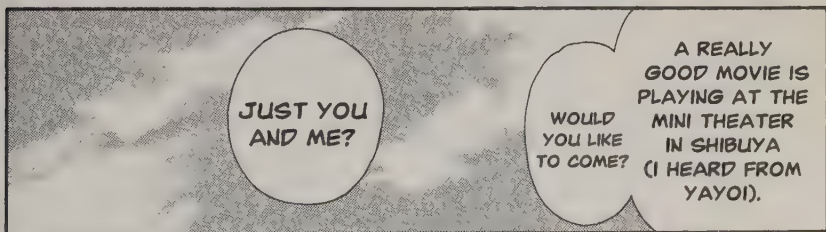
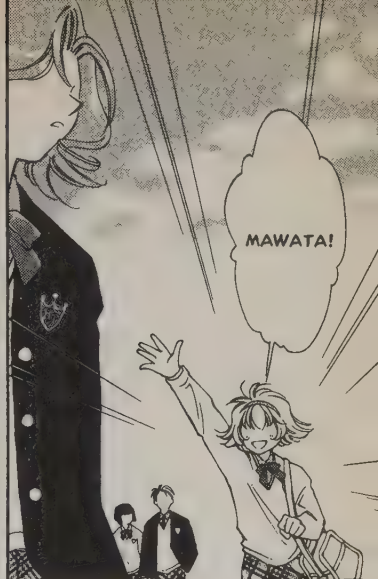
AND YOU'RE
ALWAYS
SURROUNDED
BY **BOYS!**

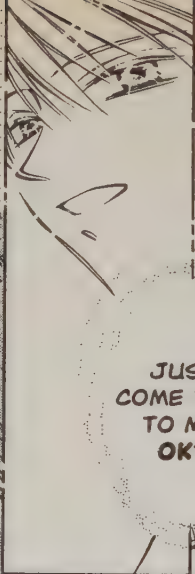
YOU'VE NO,
GOT
THE
WRONG
IDEA!



I COULD
NEVER THINK
OF YOU AS
A SISTER,
HIMENO.

I WON'T!





IF
SOMETHING
HAPPENS,

JUST
COME TALK
TO ME,
OK?

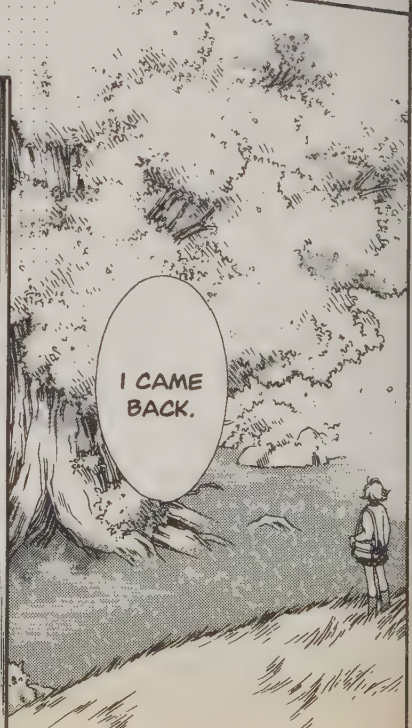


SASAME?

HE'S
OUT
RIGHT
NOW.

HE SAID
HE WAS
GOING
FOR A
WALK.

HI, HIM-
ENO!

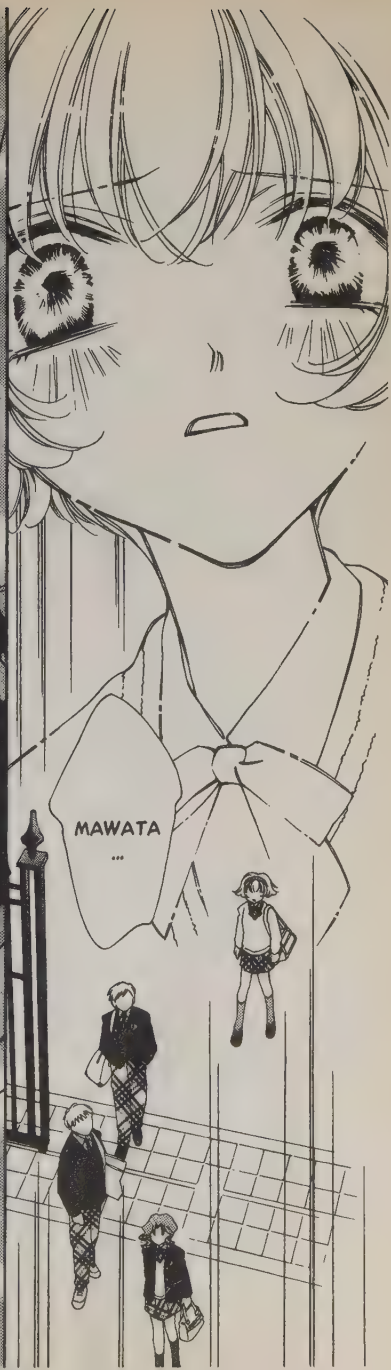



I CAME
BACK.

I DON'T WANT
TO GO BACK
HOME

かえ
帰りたい

ない






WHY CAN'T
YOU JUST
TREAT HER
NORMALLY?

SA...

SAS-
AME!

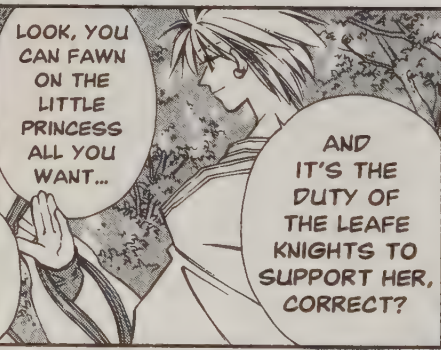
BUT I
AM.

AND
HAYATE!



LOOK, YOU
CAN FAWN
ON THE
LITTLE
PRINCESS
ALL YOU
WANT...

BUT
I'M
NOT
GOING
TO.



AND
IT'S THE
DUTY OF
THE LEAF
KNIGHTS TO
SUPPORT HER,
CORRECT?

THEY'RE
TALKING
ABOUT
ME.

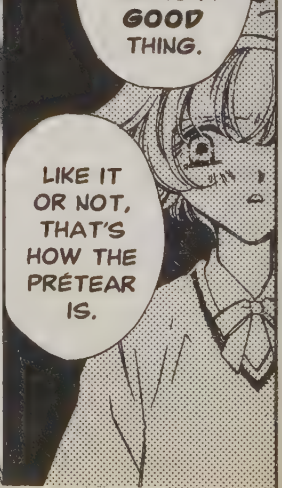
SHE'S
WAY TOO
UNSURE
OF
HERSELF.

BEING A
LITTLE
HARD ON
HER IS A
GOOD
THING.

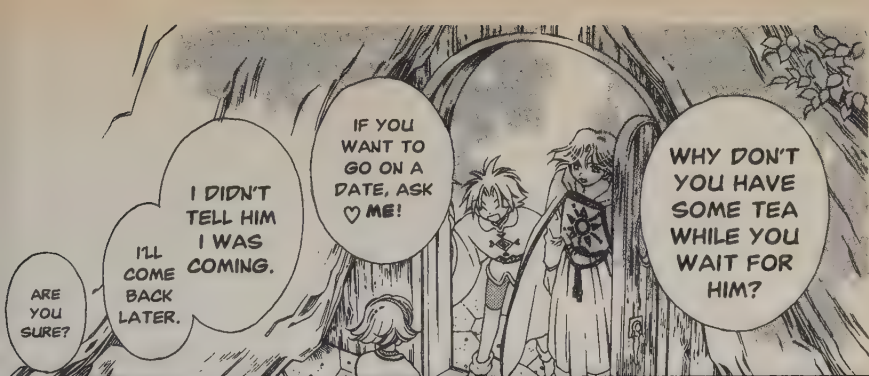


ARE
YOU
THAT
SCARED

OF LETTING
YOURSELF
GET CLOSE
TO THE
PRÉTEAR?



LIKE IT
OR NOT,
THAT'S
HOW THE
PRÉTEAR
IS.



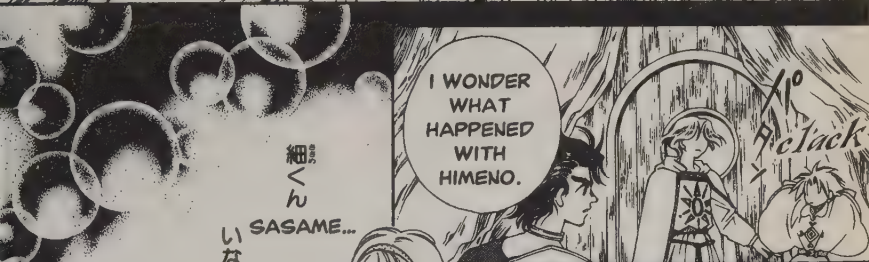
ARE YOU SURE?

I'LL COME BACK LATER.

I DIDN'T TELL HIM I WAS COMING.

IF YOU WANT TO GO ON A DATE, ASK ME!

WHY DON'T YOU HAVE SOME TEA WHILE YOU WAIT FOR HIM?



I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED WITH HIMENO.

細く
ん

SASAME...

いないのかあ

ISN'T HERE.



BUT I REALLY WANTED TO TALK TO HIM...

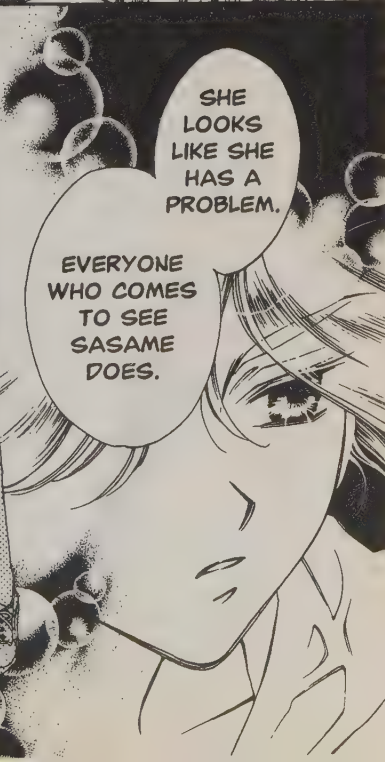
SHE'S STRONG ENOUGH.

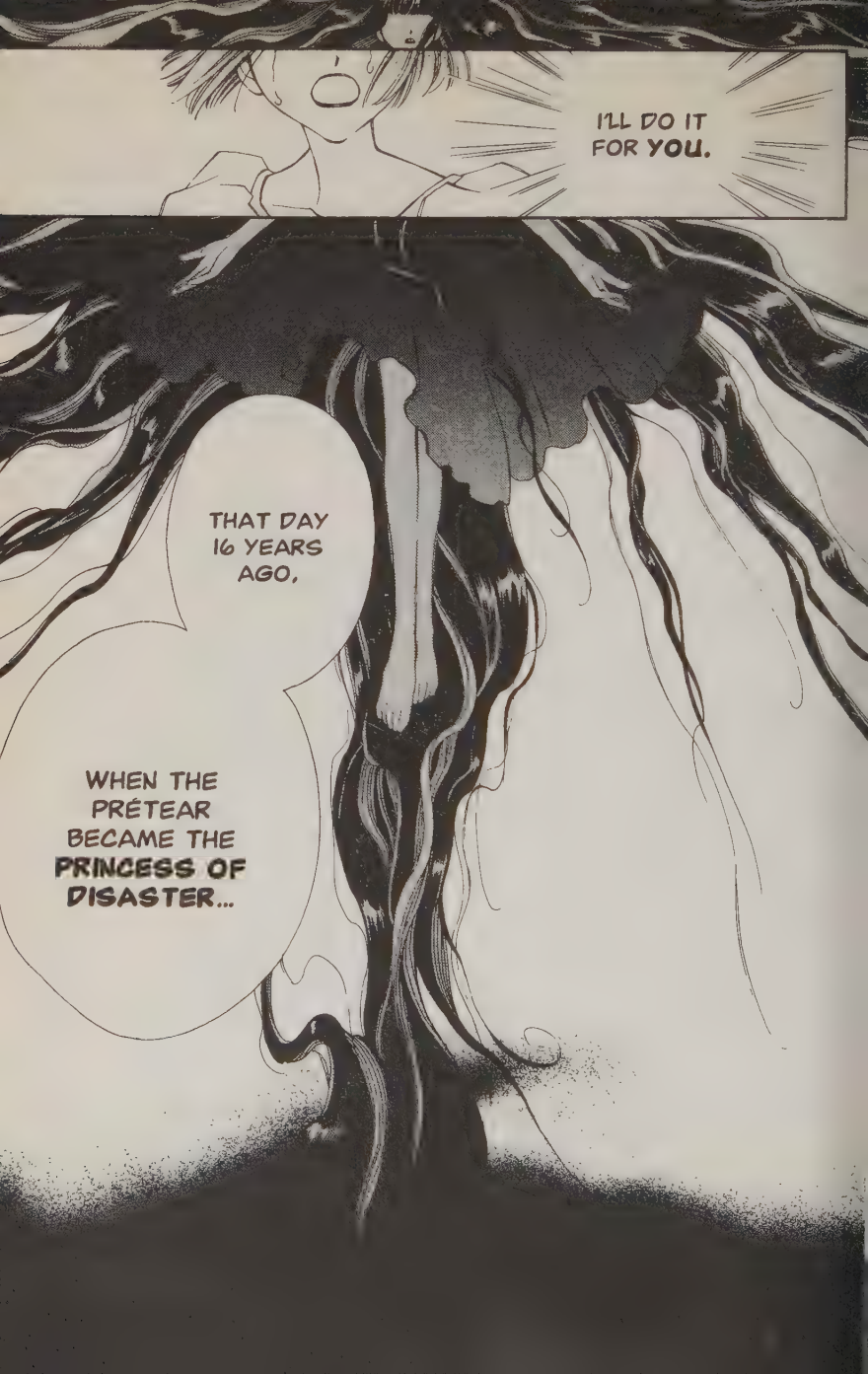
CAN'T YOU JUST ACCEPT HER?



SHE LOOKS LIKE SHE HAS A PROBLEM.

EVERYONE WHO COMES TO SEE SASAME DOES.





I'LL DO IT
FOR YOU.

THAT DAY
16 YEARS
AGO,

WHEN THE
PRÉTEAR
BECAME THE
**PRINCESS OF
DISASTER...**



BUT
HAYATE,

YOU KNOW
THAT THAT'S
IMPOSSIBLE
FOR THE
LEAFE
KNIGHTS.

BECAUSE
SHE'S THE
PRÉTEAR,
WE NEED
ONE
ANOTHER.



BUT
THAT'S
JUST
BECAUSE
YOU
WORRY
ABOUT
EVERYONE.



W,
WHAT?

THAT'S WHY
YOU'RE SO
COLD TO HER.
YOU DO IT ON
PURPOSE,
KEEPING
HER AT A
DISTANCE.

THAT WAY,
SHE CAN
REMAIN A
TOOL TO
FIGHT THE
PRINCESS OF
DISASTER,
RIGHT?

WHAT ARE THEY
TALKING ABOUT?

なんのいふ

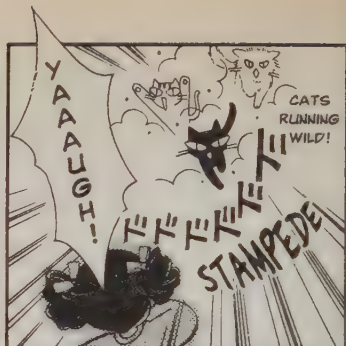
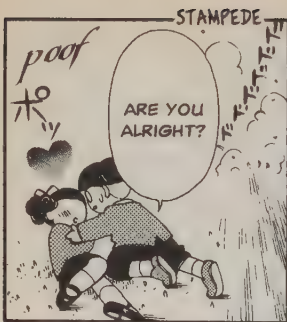
BUT EVEN
IF YOU
WERE THE
CAUSE,

YOU
SHOULDN'T
FEEL
RESPONSIBLE
FOR...

WHAT?

なに
—
?

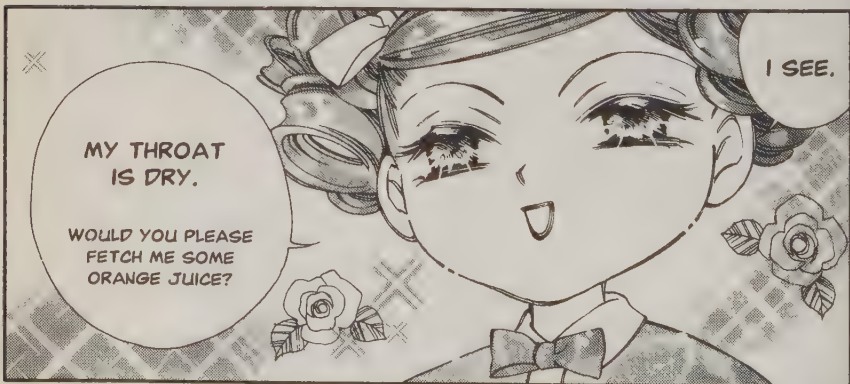
HAYATE, I
UNDERSTAND
WHY YOU CAN'T
FORGET WHAT
HAPPENED
BACK THEN...



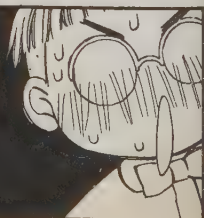
IT DIDN'T HAPPEN LIKE THIS, EITHER.



IT JUST HAPPENED.



TANAKA COULDN'T REFUSE A SINGLE ONE OF HER REQUESTS.





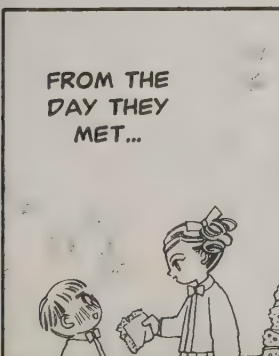
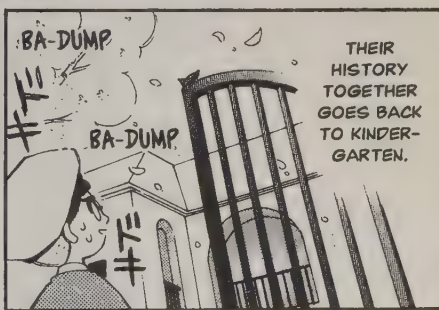
MR. TANAKA
(AGE 38), THE
CHAUFFEUR FOR
THE AWAYUKI
HOUSEHOLD.

かんばれ
田中くん

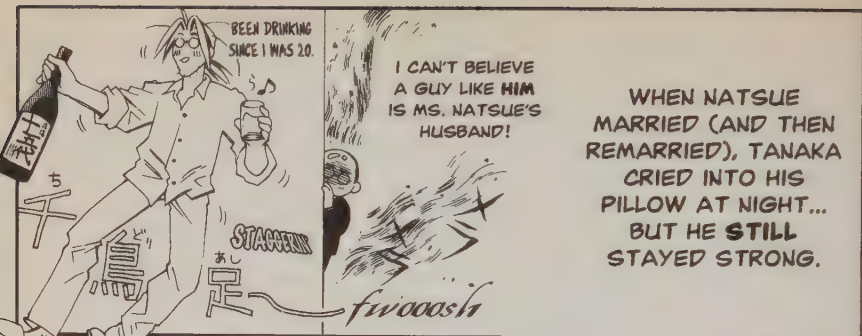


HE ADORES
MS. NATSUE.

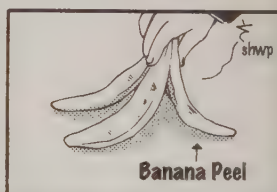
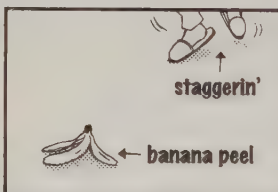
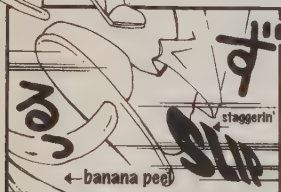
HANG IN THERE,
MR. TANAKA!



OF COURSE, IT DIDN'T HAPPEN LIKE THIS.



WHEN NATSUE MARRIED (AND THEN REMARRIED), TANAKA CRIED INTO HIS PILLOW AT NIGHT... BUT HE **STILL** STAYED STRONG.

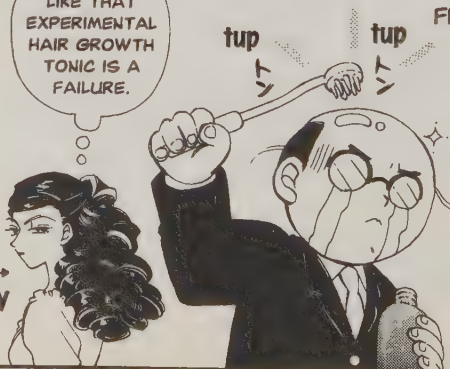


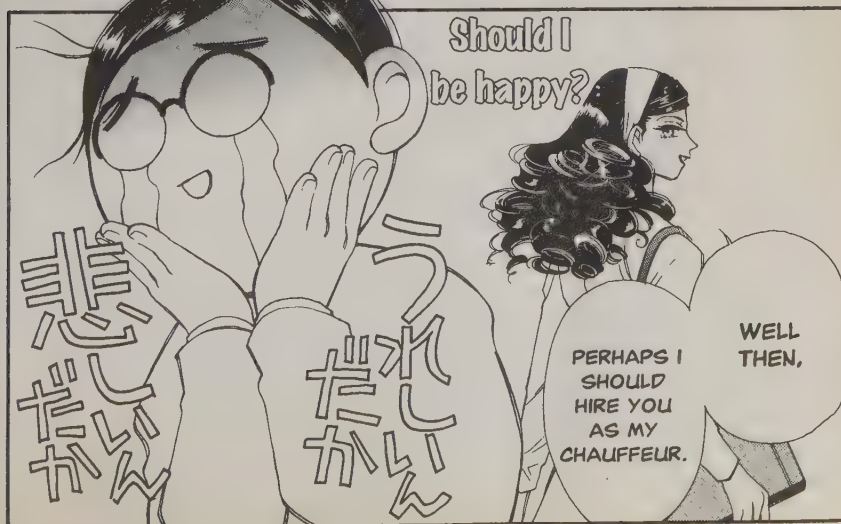
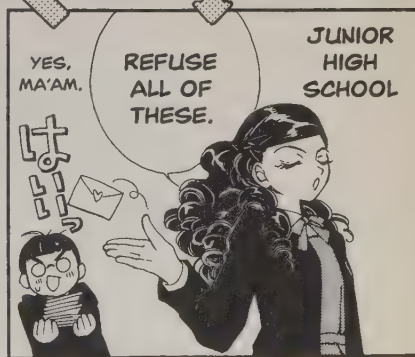
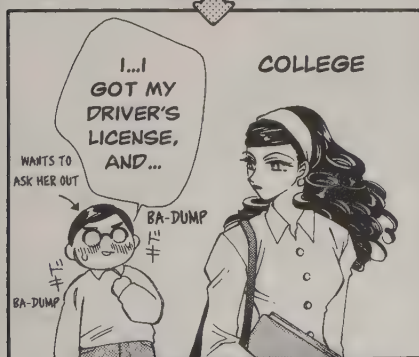
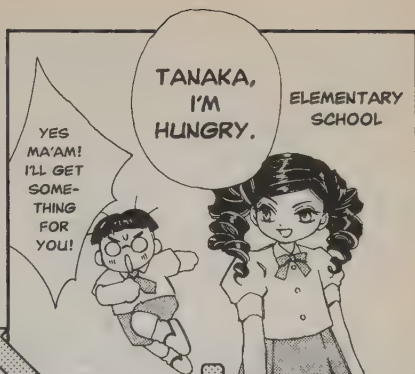
HANG IN THERE, MR. TANAKA! DON'T GIVE UP! SOME DAY YOU'LL FIND HAPPINESS, TOO!

LOOKS LIKE THAT EXPERIMENTAL HAIR GROWTH TONIC IS A FAILURE.

MR. TANAKA (AGE:38). CHAUFFEUR. GOING BALD FROM STRESS.

President of a → cosmetics company





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We hope our commitment to a faithful translation is evident in every ADV book you purchase.

Sincerely,



Javier Lopez
Lead Translator



Eiko McGregor



Kay Bertrand



Brendan Frayne



Amy Forsyth

PRÉTEAR VOLUME ONE

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Printed in Canada

THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES



PRÉTEAR VOL. 2

AVAILABLE AUGUST 2004

pg. 11

Daikon leaves

Daikon leaves are usually thrown out. They're very cheap, so it makes sense that a poor family would use them as a part of their diet.

pg. 15

I'd sure make a lousy princess!

In a bit of a pun, the "hime" part of Himeno's name means "princess" in Japanese.

pg. 31

The small note on the left side of the first panel gives a definition of a cult. It reads: * A religious sect. In this case, it refers to a group of people who cling obsessively to an extremely lopsided way of thinking.

pg. 32

(1) The tulips have bloomed

This is the beginning of a popular song that Japanese children learn in kindergarten. The full song goes like this:

Saita saita tulip no hana ga
Naranda naranda
Aka shiro kiiru
Dono hana mite mo
Kireidana

The tulips have bloomed.
All in a row
They're red, white and yellow.
And all of them
Are beautiful.

(2) Valley girl

In the original Japanese, the term used was kogal. This is a special brand of high school student that wears their skirts short, puts on baggy legwarmer-like things called "loose socks," and uses speech patterns that tend to get them pegged as not quite the sharpest tacks in the box (bear in mind, these are all generalizations). It's not unusual for kogals to actively acquire a tan, which is why Himeno immediately retorts that her skin isn't dark like a kogal's.

An outgrowth of the kogal was the now (thankfully dead-and-buried) ganguro trend, where the girls would bleach their hair blonde (or gray), tan themselves to the extreme, and wear outrageously gaudy outfits. The yamanba took this even one step further, outlining their mouth and eyes in white or silver liner.

pg. 120

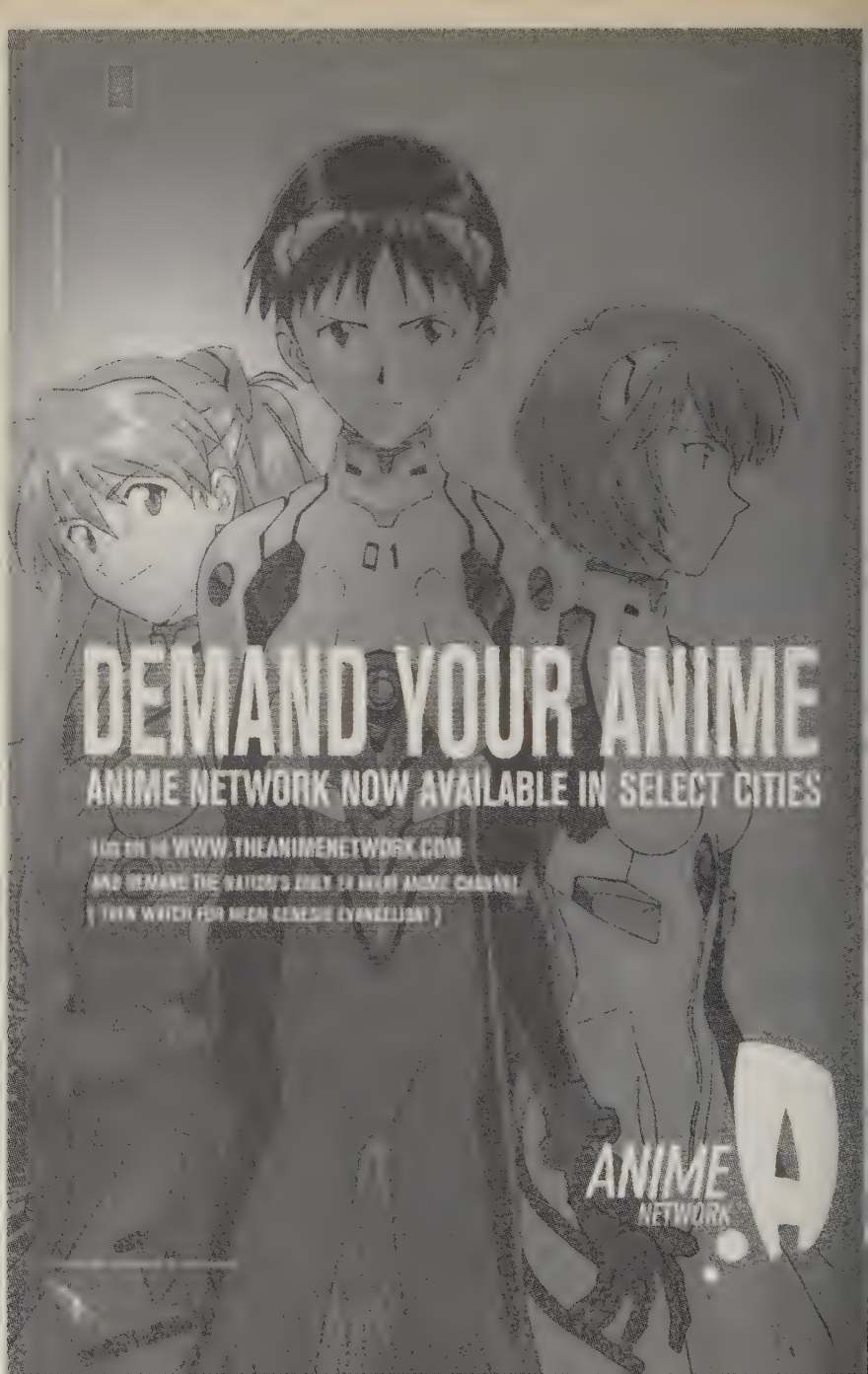
Kabuki

A form of Japanese theater dating from the 1600s. Lines are spoken in monotone and accompanied by musical instruments.

pg. 126

The flowers haven't bloomed yet.

Cherry blossom trees usually bloom in April.



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PRINCE CHARMING,
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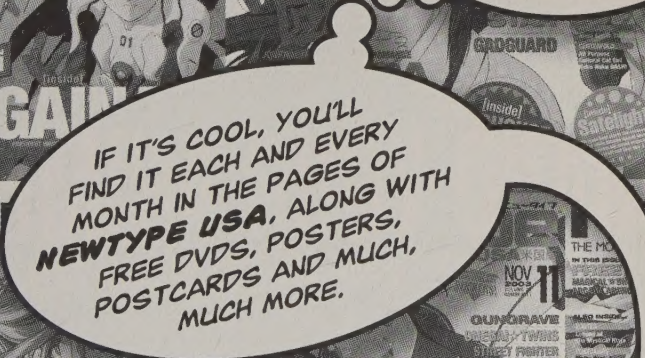
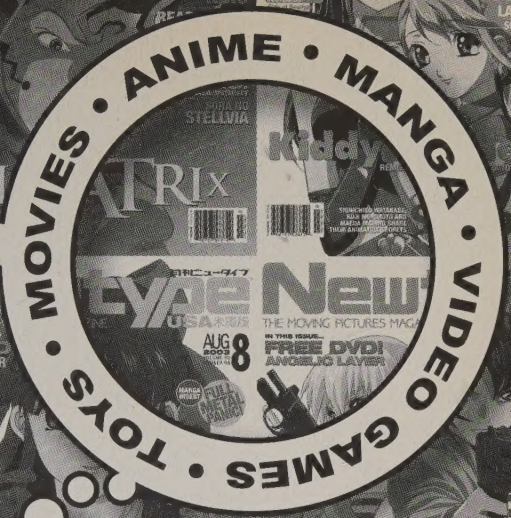
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